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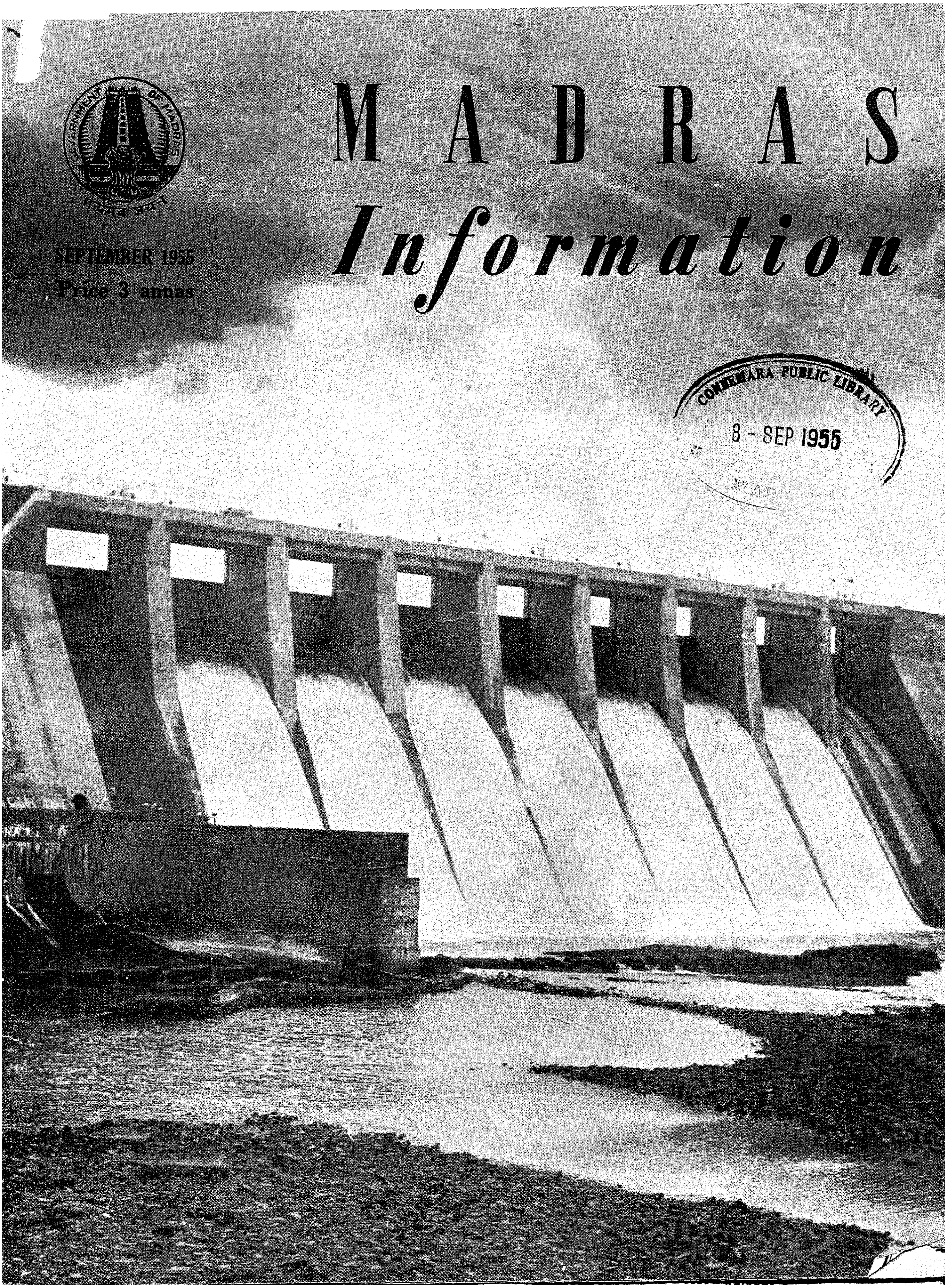

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CONTENTS:

		PAGE
1.	Planning for Prosperity—By Dr. J. C. Ghosh, Member, Planning Commission ..	3
2.	Community Development in Madras	6
3.	Irrigation in Madras State	10
4.	The Regulation of Debate—By Sri A. J. Sabesan, M.A., Secretary to the Council ..	12
5.	An Experiment in Rural Housing—By Sri R. Balasubramaniam, I.A.S. ..	16
6.	Making the Good Earth Better	19
7.	Tirumalai Kumaraswami Temple, Panpoli—By Sri V. Sankaranarayanan, Executive Officer	21
8.	Dairy goats of Malabar	21
9.	Truth About B.C.G.	22
10.	Rural Electrification	24
11.	The Bridge Across Noyyal River—By Sri K. K. Nambiar, Chief Engineer (Highways)	25
12.	Aquarium Opened in the City	27
13.	Tamil Literature: The Ancient Period—By Sri R. P. Sethu Pillai, Head of the Tamil Department, University of Madras	28
14.	Rural Broadcasts for September 1955	31

Cover Page: LOWER BHAVANI PROJECT—With the installation of the mechanical sluice gates, the work of the Lower Bhavani Project is practically over. The Goddess Bhavani is now tamed—She will now smile and her ripples and bubbles will murmur sweet words to the peasants of Coimbatore district.

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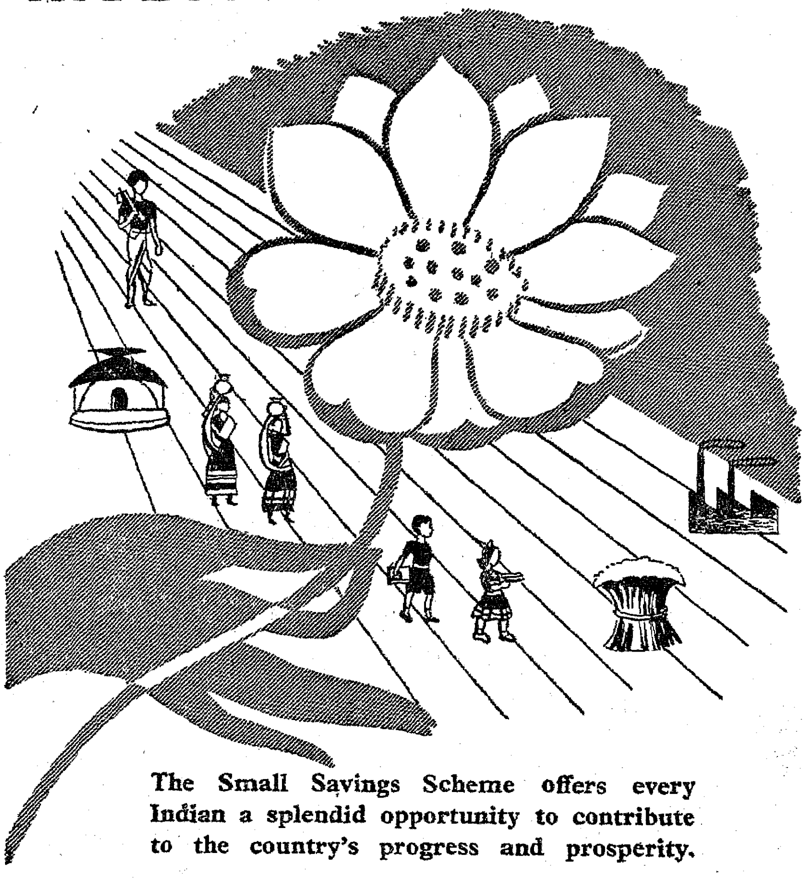

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MAD

Planning for Prosperity

By DR. J. C. GHOSH, Member, Planning Commission

"Do not talk of God to a hungry man. Give him food." This appeal of the Mahatma was the guiding principle in the First Five-Year Plan. Hunger must be shown the door, before one can think of social or moral development. Time was, when in the plains and river valleys of India, food could be had with little effort. But as the population grew, home-grown food became more and more inadequate for our needs. In the critical year of 1951–52, we had to beg of America to give us a big loan which was used for importing wheat to feed our starving millions. Political independence has no meaning if such enconomic dependence were to continue.

Food Production

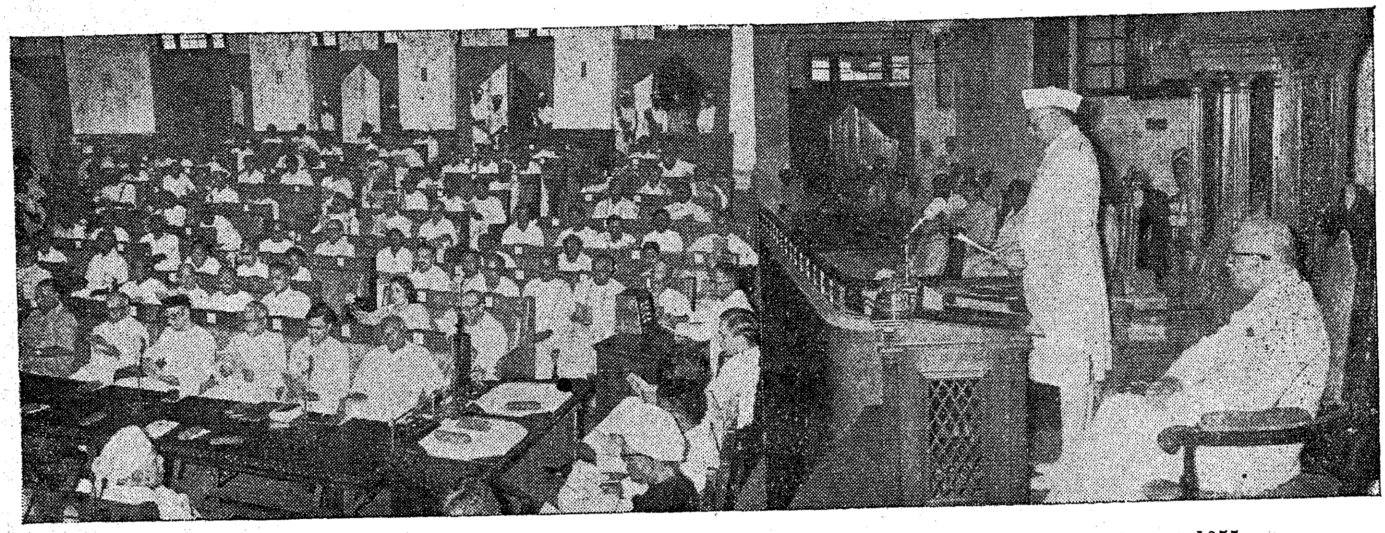
Accordingly, our efforts in the first plan have been mostly directed to increased food production. More and more waste lands have been brought under cultivation. Our people have learnt to use modern machines, like tractors and bull-dozers, for land reclamation. Crop production is ceasing to be a gamble in monsoon rains. Major and minor irrigation projects are being completed all over the land, so that not a drop of rain, which falls on the soil of India, may flow into the sea, except as her people determine it. And in these irrigated lands, intensive cultivation is being practised with improved seeds and increasing supply of manure. Synthetic fertiliser factories have been set up which capture the nitrogen of the air and convert it into a rich plant food. Success has crowned these efforts. Not only self-sufficiency has been achieved, but Government have decided to keep a reserve stock of one million tons of cereals and modern warehouses where the danger of spoilage is small, are being built for this purpose. Having turned the dangerous food corner, Government are now free to plan for prosperity and richer life. We are living in a machine age; those countries are prosperous whose people know how to make machines and use them for productive purposes. In ancient civilizations, prosperity and the fuller life of the few were often based on the slave labour of the many. But today machines may function as slaves; and human muscles need not bear the pain and the drudgery which machines can bear. A man who has the skill to use a machine consuming one unit of electrical energy can do the work which a dozen men can do otherwise. He therefore becomes as efficient as a dozen men, and in one day he does the work of a dozen days. There is again no end of things which these machines can do. Under the guidance of skilful masters, they reclaim the land, till the soil, sow the seeds, harvest the crops and process the produce of the fields and livestock into palatable food. They transport men and goods, on the land, over the sea, and through the air. They can carry messages and even transmit one's voice and pictures to distant lands in practically no time. They can transform raw materials, the minerals within the earth and the vegetation on its surface, into finished goods of almost infinite variety, which men have need of, or wish to possess.

> **Oversubscribed**
>
> *The Government of Madras asked the citizens for a loan of Rupees seven crores. But the people gave instead Rs. 13·72 crores. In one word it means CONFIDENCE. In effect it means ; Take all that you want and quite a lot more. We know our money is in safe hands. Give it back to us in the form of more water for our fields, more power for our homes and factories, better roads, more schools, good seeds, more manure . . . Plan is the instrument for executing these programmes of reconstruction. With this spirit no one need be dispirited over curtailed expenditure or pruned estimates. When the spirit of man is aroused Plans have a way of going ahead, finance or no finance.*

Heavy Industries

In the Second Five-Year Plan, it is intended to pay special attention to the development of heavy engineering industries which will enable us to make machines and capital goods. The basic raw material for making machines is iron and steel. In India, our production of steel today is 1·2 million tons per year. This indigenous production is far below our existing requirements. We can afford to have only limited import of steel and the result has been that even a decade after the war, we have still to ration the use of steel. The pity is, that such a situation should have continued when our cost of manufacture of steel is the cheapest in the world, and we have such an abundant supply of rich iron ore and cheap coal that we can be one of the world's largest steel producers.

A bold programme of steel production has now been adopted and it is hoped that by 1961, the expansion of the existing steel plants at Tatanagar and Burnpur and the establishment of new ones in Orissa, Madhya Pradesh and in the Bengal-Bihar coal fields, will enable us to step up production to six million tons. For the three new plants, we shall have at our disposal, for design and erection, the technical knowledge of the three largest steel producing countries of Europe—Russi



Shri Sri Prakasa, Governor of Madras, addressing the joint Session of the Legislature on 1st August 1955.

Germany and the United Kingdom. It is hoped that between the three of them, we shall be able to pick up all that is worth knowing about the manufacture of steel. Indian technologists and engineers have the well-deserved reputation of imbibing new knowledge quickly and applying them to practical ends. The magnificent dams, the canals and the power-houses in the many river valley projects that have been, or are nearly completed, bear eloquent testimony to their skill and ability. We have no doubt that the new steel plants will give them scope for displaying equal ability in an allied field.

Fuel and Power

The energy of the falling rain is being converted into electric power in our river valley projects. But that is not enough. The per-capita use of fuel and power is today the measure of a country's industrial strength. England with its population of 45 million, raises annually more than 200 million tons of coal from her mines for purposes of industrial and domestic heating, for production of power and for use in steel making. In India, our present production is only 36 million tons of coal. It is intended to raise this production to sixty million tons per year. This is a key industry and too much attention cannot be paid to its development and expansion along right lines.

Again, coal is a wasting asset and every effort should therefore be made to ensure its maximum extraction from the mines and its best utilisation. At Dhanbad, Government have established a School of Mines for the training of mining engineers, a Fuel Research Institute and a Mining Research Institute for research on problems associated with the extraction and utilisation of coal.

Synthetic Oil

A spectacular example of what research can do is provided by the war-time production of petrol from coal in Germany. Petrol and diesel oil are indispensable for aircraft and mechanised transport. Germany had no oil fields of her own, and her supply of oil from overseas was cut off by the Allied blockade. But before the war, she had developed two processes for making oil from coal; and these processes soon formed the basis of synthetic oil production at the rate of eight million tons a year. India has oilfields in the far eastern frontiers of Assam, and the production is no more than 8 per cent of her peacetime requirements. Government have therefore agreed to put up a synthetic oil plant in the near future, which will use our very large reserves of third class coal for manufacture of aviation petrol and other types of liquid fuels in quantities sufficient to meet the peacetime requirements of the Indian Defence Forces.

Shri Sri Prakasa, Governor of Madras, inaugurating the Madras Sangeet Nataka Sangham at Annamalai Manram.

Today, it is universally recognised that the greatest asset of a nation are not the minerals within the country, but the storehouse of scientific knowledge and technical skill in the possession of the people. Unlike natural resources which are depleted with use, this asset improves by use and is enlarged by sharing. In the Second Five-Year Plan, the highest priority will, therefore, be allotted to the development of scientific and technical education and the training of skilled workers.

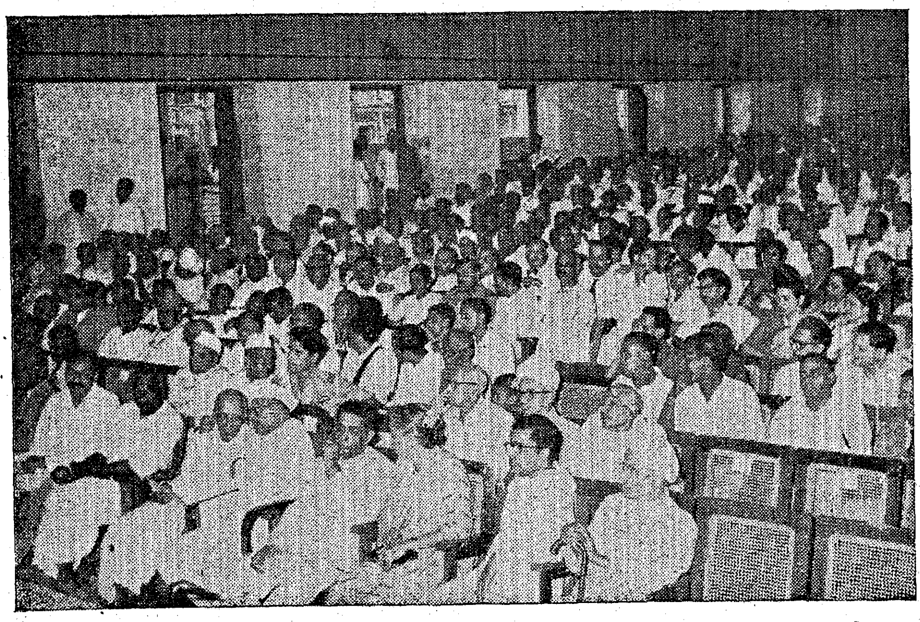
Modern Tools

It is time that we recognise that hard work alone is not enough. The wealth that a man creates with his primitive skill and ancient tools is insignificant compared with what a skilled worker can do with his up-to-date tools. The real problem before us is to equip the workers of India with modern tools and modern skill, so that they can create enough wealth to enjoy a full life, so that work can be the happy occupation that it should be and not the competition in human endurance that it is. Modern tools are, however, capital goods which can either be had on loan, or have to be paid for in cash. We believe that self-help is the best help ; hence the more we save to buy capital goods with, the quicker shall we be marching on the road to prosperity.

Planning for Welfare

Planning for economic prosperity is only part of planning for welfare. A healthy and cultivated mind in a healthy body—that is the kind of plan which every citizen must have for himself at this dawn of new life in India. There is in him the dormant energy to achieve this end. The social welfare organisations of the State are mostly instruments to release this dormant energy. They are there to awaken in him the consciousness of his own ability, the will to enrich and transform his mind through experience and knowledge, and a determination to keep in good health the body, which is the temple of the spirit. It is intended to cover the whole country in the near future with a network of schools, health centres, National Extension Service blocks and Community Development Projects. These are expected to be the nuclei round which will start a people's movement for growing better men, who will take pride in creative work, hate to be parasites, place enterprise ahead of security, learn the secrets of healthy living, will think of "ignorance as the curse of God, and knowledge the wing wherewith to fly to heaven." They are intended to be the agencies through which the pathetic contentment of a helpless and ignorant people, resigned to the vagaries of fate, will be replaced by a mental unrest and a faith in human effort. It is when human nature in India enters upon this phase of development that planning for welfare may be considered to have achieved its main purpose.

(*By Courtesy, AIR.*)



A view of the audience at the inauguration of the Madras Sangeeta Nataka Sangham at Annamalai Manram.

Do You Know?

1. The Constitution has set a limit of 15 years after which all work of the Central Government will have to be carried on in Hindi instead of in English.

2. A people's encyclopædia, which will supply information about the modern world in simple Hindi, is under preparation by the Central Ministry of Education. The first volume has already been completed.

3. With the introduction of a Hamper Box service in the compartments of trains on sections of the Eastern Railway, a new advance in railway catering in India has been made. For a nominal extra charge passengers can now order a meal containing items of their own choice in a box, and eat it at any time they choose.

4. The Executive Council of the Children's Film Society have decided to have two children's films produced by March 1956. The Council would invite writers throughout the country to send suitable stories for the films. Three stories will be selected and the Society will pay Rs. 3,000 for each story.

5. The Bhakra Dam, when complete, will be three times taller than the Qutub Minar in Delhi.

6. The Government of India have decided to award scholarships for post-Matriculation studies to all eligible Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes candidates who have passed in their last annual examination and applied for scholarships.

Facts and Figures

Till the end of March 1955, the tota value of people's contribution toward the Community Development Pro gramme in terms of labour, land an cash amounted to Rs. 10·21 crores a against a total Government expendi ture of Rs. 20·50 crores.

The staff employed in the Com munity Projects and National Exten sion Service Blocks on March 31, 195 numbered 14,392.

Community Development in Madras

Progress reports coming from the Community Development areas in all parts of the State follow almost the same pattern and tell the same story. It is the story of the changing attitude of the rural folk to their problems, their surroundings, and above all, their future. In the early days of the Community Development Programme, when the officials went about collecting data and surveying rural resources and requirements, people were perturbed. Was this the preliminary to some new controls, rations and coupons, they asked themselves, and were naturally suspicious of the statements that a new programme was being launched for their welfare, their uplift.

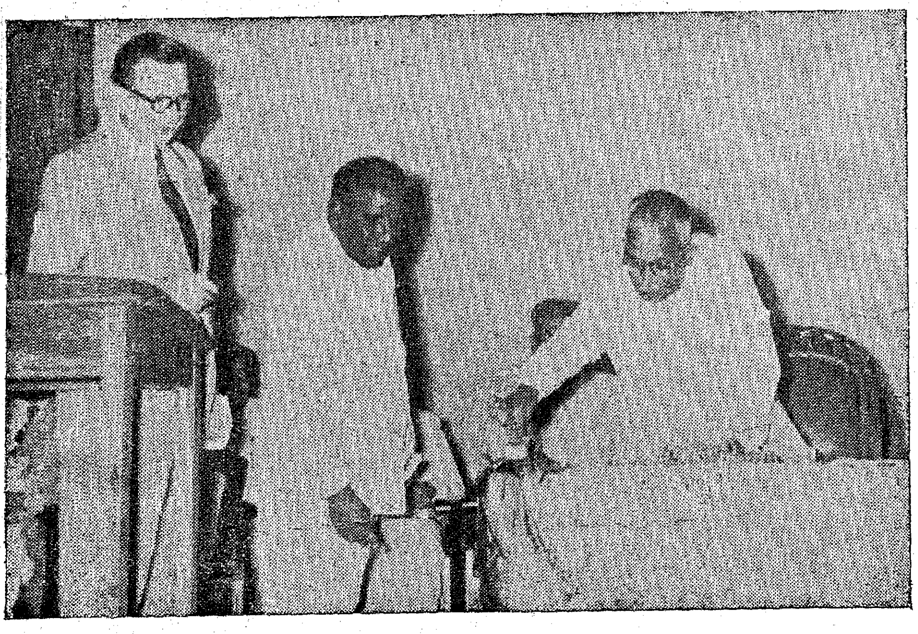
When the survey and preliminary investigations were over and the people were approached with plans for building roads, digging wells, starting medical centres and opening new schools, and when they were told that all this could be done by the people themselves, they grew cynical but were no doubt interested and willing to experiment the idea.

The next stage came when the plans got under way and with the growing participation of the people the roads were built or wells dug to the entire satisfaction and some surprise of the folks.

After this came the hectic days of hard work, widespread plans, and unbounded enthusiasm. The people no longer stood aloof and let the officials prepare the plans, only ready to work when they were asked to do. But they knew their requirements, their resources, their potentialities. They planned for themselves and they carried out the plans; the officials only helped them with proper direction, technical advice and if necessary with funds.

Early beginning in Madras

So far as Madras State is concerned this period had set in long ago and had well advanced. In Madras State the programme had a wider background. The idea of rural development by self-help of the villagers with the Government participation began much earlier here.



Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam, Minister for Agriculture, switching on an "Original Heilderberg" automatic printing machine at the Southern Regional School of Printing on the occasion of the opening of the school at the Central Polytechnic, Madras.

Immediately after the assumption of popular Ministry in Madras State in 1946 the Government had chalked out a Rural Welfare Scheme with the primary objective of helping the rural population to build a new life for themselves by means of sound agriculture and other subsidiary economic developments. The programme which was approved by Mahatma Gandhi was in operation in 108 selected firkas in the composite Madras State (i.e., including the present Andhra State) until the National Extension Service was launched on all-India basis in October 1953, and these two programmes were merged in Madras State.

Meanwhile in 1952-53, the Community Project Scheme was introduced all over India and out of the 55 rural-*cum*-urban Community Projects selected throughout the country, four were allotted to Madras. Each of these projects consists of about 300 villages and a population of about 200,000 persons.

The next year the Community Project Scheme was launched in four Community Development Blocks of the size of about 100 villages each with a population of about 66,000 people.

The National Extension Scheme was inaugurated on 2nd October 1953, in 28 blocks, each block consisting of about 100 villages covering a population of about 66,000. The scheme was later extended to 20 additional blocks of about the same size.

Out of the 48 National Extension Service Blocks in the State 20 were converted into Community Development Blocks with effect from 1st April 1955.

Target Achieved.

Thus there are at present four major Community Projects, twenty-four Community Development Blocks and twenty-eight National Extension Service Blocks. All these schemes together cover a population of about 76 lakhs out of a total rural population of about 290 lakhs in the State. The target of the First Five-Year Plan to cover one-fourth of the rural population

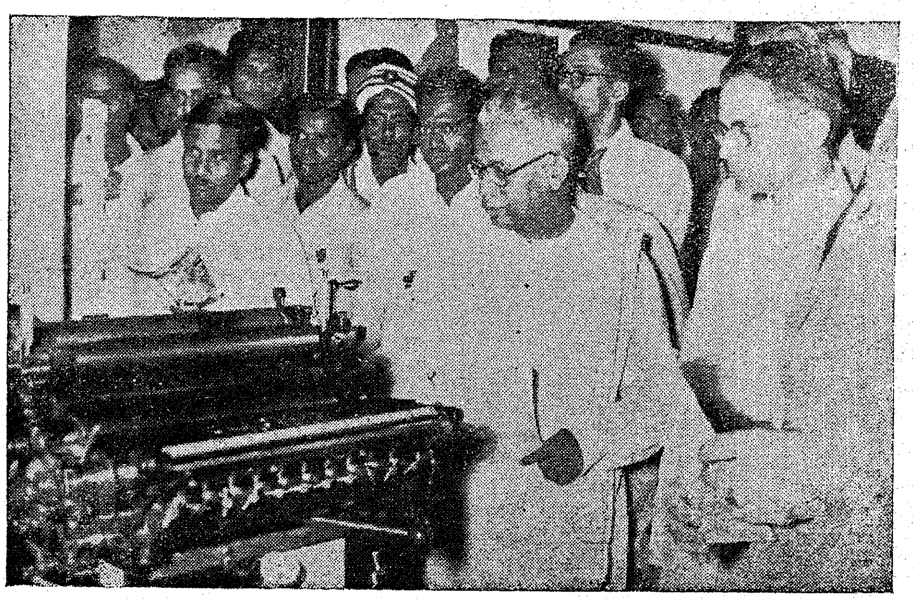
by the end of March 1956 has already been achieved in Madras State, a year in advance. The entire State population is expected to be covered by the Community Development Programmes by the end of the Second Five-Year Plan, i.e., by 31st March 1962. In these areas the spirit of self-help and the desire to lead a better way of life have taken deep roots and this spirit and desire are fast spreading to neighbouring areas.

New Life in Villages

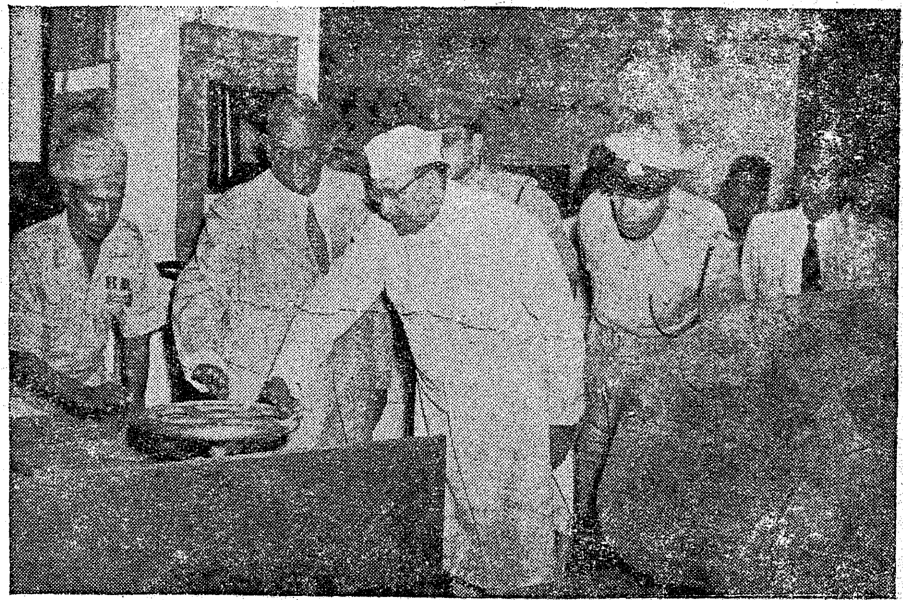
The reports coming in from various Development Blocks are no longer the dull, drab, monotonous tables of figures and charts. They are interesting accounts of a new life, throbbing with a new vitality, a new spirit among villagers. These stories show the new trends in rural areas, and ardent desires till now dormant in the community which have taken constructive shape in recent times with the new awakening among all sections of the population, men, women and children.

In Tanjore district, the "Granary of the South", Community Development Programme has been launched on an extensive scale. Besides the two N.E.S. Blocks inaugurated on 2nd October 1953, covering an area of 274·92 square miles with a population of 211,934 persons which have been converted into Community Development Blocks with effect from 1st April 1955. A special N.E.S. Scheme has been introduced in all the villages in the Revenue Divisions of Kumbakonam and Mayuram comprising of 893 square miles and a population of 919,962. Under this special scheme emphasis is laid on the villagers helping themselves, constituting themselves into Village Development Panchayats and determining their requirements with the guidance and assistance of the N.E.S. staff. Intensive Cultivation Programme has been given the topmost priority in the scheme.

"At the time of the inauguration of the scheme, there was a mixed reception to the scheme. Now the people have come round to a certain extent, to think, plan and work for themselves and to develop ideas of self-help, self-reliance and self-confidence. They are now coming forward to give their lands free for forming roads and to extend their help to achieve improvements by their labour. There is a healthy competition in offering contributions in labour, kind and cash for development works to be taken up and in securing more amenities for their villages. In some villages, the villagers have decided that each family in the village should contribute free labour for a day or two for certain items of community works and they have also arranged for free food for those who have taken part in the execution of the work by voluntary labour. This has given a great incentive to men and women, old and young, to come in increasing numbers and join in the common endeavour in carrying out the works like formation of roads, deepening of tanks, etc. The introduction of this scheme to some extent is responsible for the eradication of internal differences among the villagers. Another feature of the Community Development work is that the idle man-power available in the countryside has been utilized to the best possible advantage for the welfare of the community as a whole. The



Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam, Minister for Agriculture, examining the "Original Heilderberg" automatic printing machine at the Southern Regional School of Printing.



Governor of Madras inaugurated on 29th July 1955 the band saw installed in the Tinnevelly Co-operative Works for Ex-Servicemen—Photo shows the Governor switching on the machine.

enthusiam exhibited by the villagers is so much that owing to paucity of funds, it is not possible to meet their entire requirements."

Newly Found Initiative

In Tirumangalam firka in Madurai district the old Rural Welfare Scheme had already installed in the minds of the people the idea that self-help and mutual assistance alone will bring prosperity to them. People's participation, the cardinal principle underlying the Community Development Programme has gained much momentum and tempo in the last two and a half years. Their ready participation in the programme can be witnessed in all phases of human requirements, viz., Communications, Water-supply, Public Health, Sanitation, Co-operation, Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Social and Recreational activities.

"In this block comprising 112 villages with a population of 122,195 people the old days of 'masterly inactivity' is gone. One sees round only cheerful faces, bright with hopes. Factions have gone down and a belief in the policy of 'Live and let live' is gaining ground. The idea of co-operative effort with its resultant advantages is being imbibed, though slowly, but steadily."

"Local leadership and intiative which were latent in the humble folks are manifesting themselves in a wide range of activities. People have come to know of the Biblical saying: 'Ask and thou shalt be given.' People are now boldly voicing their requirements in common and this naturally brings the Government to attend to their needs."

From Indifference to Active Co-operation

In Tiruchirappalli district the N.E.S. Scheme was introduced in 1953 in three blocks out of which two have since been converted into Community Development Blocks. Another block was inaugurated in Alangudi in October 1954.

In the early stages, the people as a whole were rather hesitant to participate and as such the scheme had to start as a Government Programme with people's participation. But, later, as the people realized the advantages gained by the villages which joined this movement earlier they came forward in large numbers for improving their lot by forming new roads and putting up drinking water wells, adult schools and radios, etc. This itself was a healthy sign of the interest taken by the people in working their plan. Thus the integrated plans for all the blocks were drawn up based on the felt needs of the people.

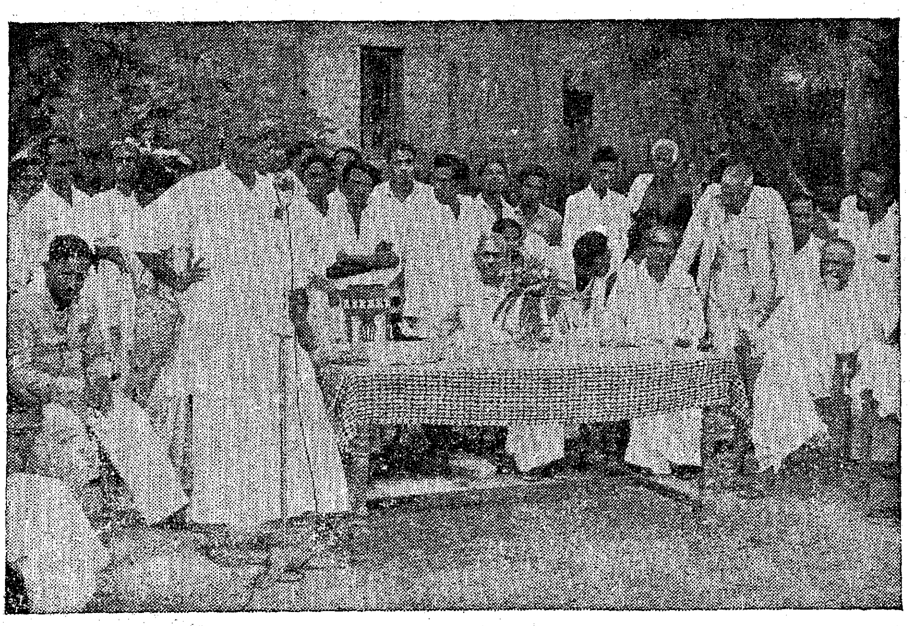
"The old casual and indifferent way in which people used to treat the works under execution in their villages is gradually disappearing. This is illustrated by the way in which the people take to improved methods of agriculture and better sanitation. Though this cannot be termed as a cent per cent change still there has been a marked change in the pattern of participation. Instead of the people participating in the schemes of Government, now the people expect the Government to help them to carry out their schemes for their own betterment."

"A concrete instance where the typical Community Development spirit manifested itself occurred in Perumalapalayam village in Musiri block. This is a small hamlet and was without any road connecting the main road. The villagers wanted that a road should be laid and approached the Panchayat Board. The Panchayat Board was prepared to form the road, but to avoid land acquisition, it had to be unnecessarily long and circutuous. But the villagers decided to have the road by a direct route passing through patta lands and the owners of these lands gifted their lands required for the road."

The total road work was parcelled out into small bits and quota for each family was fixed. Men, women, boys and girls participated in the work and completed their quota with a keen sense of duty and joy and formed the road for a mile. It was a good example of what co-operative effort can achieve. Exhilarated by this example, the villagers have this year proposed an extension of road facilities connecting their village with the main road. Several Panchayat Boards have taken up works and schemes such as communications, wells, buildings, drains, latrines, libraries, social education clubs, radios and games materials.

New Leadership, New Atmosphere

In Chingleput district, near Madras City, where there are three Community Development Blocks functioning in 319 villages with a population of 309,936 persons, a new atmosphere has been created. Persons holding a good record in agriculture, social service, good house-keeping, cattle care, etc., were constituted into a committee which was publicised in a chart painted on the most prominent wall in the village. The chart provides columns for the next two years in which the names of the new record-holders to be organised into committees will be publicised. This device has tended to keep the village leaders on their toes, while at the same



Sri K. Kamaraj, Chief Minister, addressing a public meeting at Karaikudi in connection with the opening of a local water-supply scheme.

time gratifying those whose names have been publicised.

"These wall charts giving statistics of population and production and leaders have created a new consciousness in the villages of Chingleput district. The villagers know more about themselves, while the leaders publicised have a new sense of responsibility. Civic service of the social nature is being shown in organising youth clubs, adult information centres, civic improvement squads, etc. The names of the organisers of each of these activities, and also of others concerned with the health, education and actual activities of the people of the ward are publicised as social leaders."

The youth of the village has been organised for development work by being formed into teams of development volunteers, six men and six women in each village, who are given uniforms and badges. The duties of the volunteers are to improve the targets of development by house-to-house visits. Youth clubs have been organized to provide sports and dramatic entertainments and teach people to make best use of their leisure. Children's parks consisting of a ladder and slide outfit, swing outfit and a see-saw have been set up in about 10 centres per block during this year at a cost of Rs. 150 each to the block, with an equal contribution from the villagers, in order to provide particularly the children of the poor with exercise and amusement, which they cannot otherwise have. It has been programmed to provide at least 0 more such combination sets during the plan period and cover almost all the areas where schools for the children are available.

"Improvement to houses at least in the way of white walls, painted doors, properly thatched roofs with newly cut hay spread over is being stimulated by grant of materials required. Walls are being rasied at least to one foot, and provision of doors and windows with the requisite heights arranged wherever they are badly needed. This experiment was tried in the villages of Kulipanthandalam, Mahabalipuram and Poonjeri in Tirukkalikundram block, besides some more villages in other National Extension Service and Community Development Blocks. On an average at a cost of Rs. 5 a mud hovel has been transformed into a properly white-washed and thatched house. Adult centres have been converted into listening-in-clubs at which newspapers and books are read twice a week to the assemblage of illiterate persons."

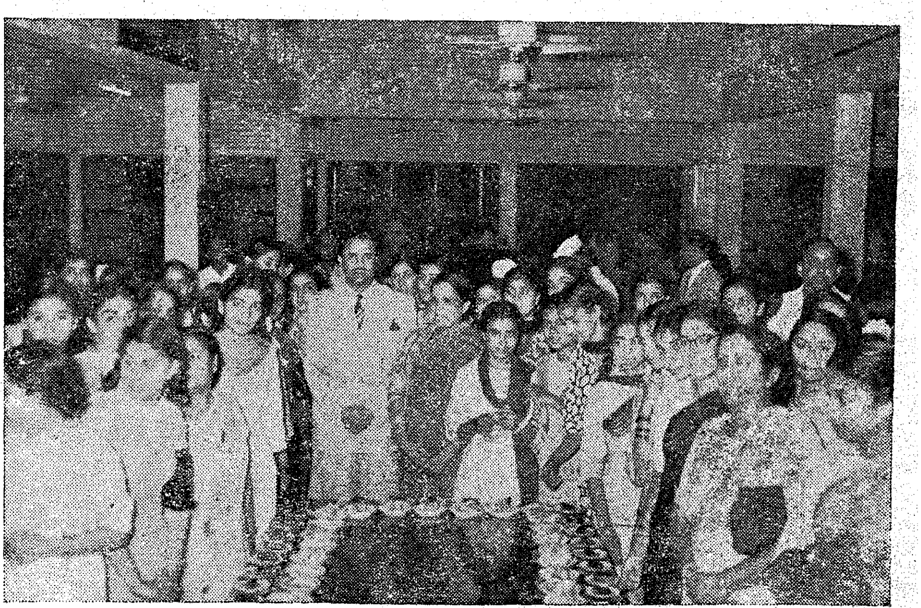
Gramaseva Sanghams

In Malabar district, 'Gramaseva Sanghams' have been organized by the people in every village and all the activities are carried out through them. These sanghams are purely non-official bodies and are constituted by the village leaders. The felt needs and the immediate problem of a village are brought to the notice of the Sanghams and they are solved by the people themselves with the assistance of the N.E.S. staff.

"Public contribution is insisted on for all activities in these blocks and the villagers have been magnificently contributing their share, wherever required. The people have begun to realise that N.E.S. is a people's programme and that they should not look forward to Government help for everything. They have never failed to come forward with their share wherever and whenever necessary."

"The villagers have been conducting agricultural exhibitions and they were successful. After the introduction of the N.E.S. Scheme in these areas, the percentage of literacy is steadily going up. Adult literacy schools are functioning in the villages and the pupils show much eagerness for learning. Sports clubs are also functioning at different centres in the blocks. All these were organised with 50 per cent contribution from the villagers. The villagers have also got a community hall with reading room and library in almost every village. Eighteen buildings worth Rs. 54,000 were put up by villagers in Tellicherry block with a Government grant of Rs. 9,000. This would show how the people are interested in carrying out the programme under the N.E.S. Scheme. "Kala Samithis" are also functioning in these blocks. There are also a good number of adult education centres working in these areas. Besides, youth leagues formed by the villagers are also working there. The people in these blocks are higly interested in conducting recreational programmes, folk dances, dramas and songs. The youth clubs are engaged in the physical and cultural programmes. In schools social service leagues are organised and they form the nucleus for the youth welfare organisations and educational activities."

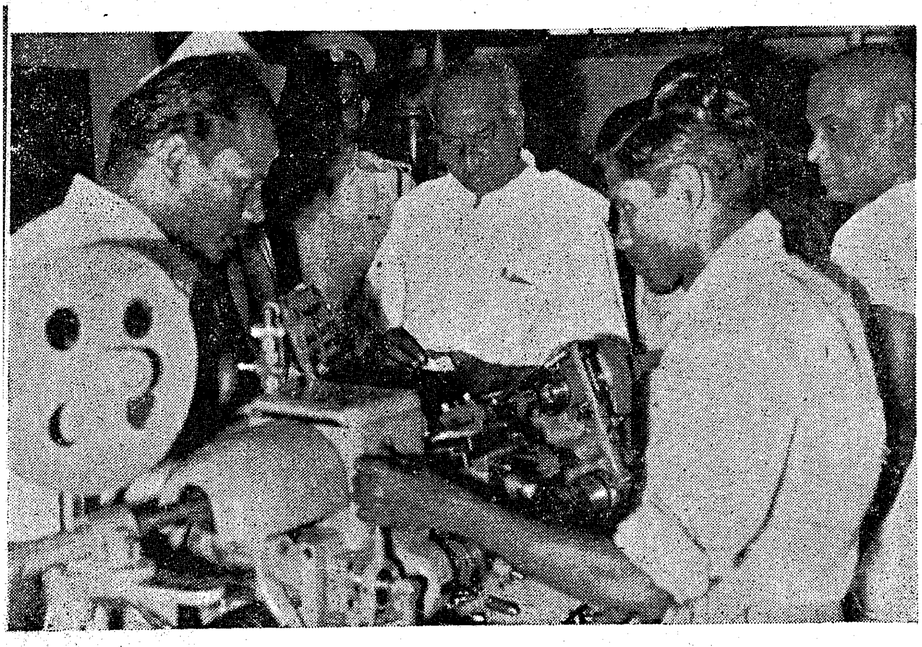
These short accounts might have helped the reader to make an overall assessment of the increasing tempo of people's participation in the Community Development Programme, gradually converting it into a "People's programme with Government participation". Individual citizens in these areas also have shown great keenness to organise their fellow villagers in this "great adventure of building a new India", details of which would hardly fit within the compass of a short article like this.



N.C.C. Girl Cadets from Punjab recently visited Madras. They were entertained to tea by the local N.C.C. authorities.

Irrigation in Madras State

Ever since India became independent, the National Government have been engaging themselves in stupendous irrigation projects, involving huge capital outlay and human labour. The anxiety of the Government to make use of the large net-work of rivers in our country by constructing dams so that the water could be used for irrigation purposes can only be understood if we look at them in the proper perspective in the context of the fact that India is essentially an agricultural country, whose large mass of the population depend on agriculture for their livelihood. Further, the problem of giving a fillip to agriculture and placing it on a rational basis, is closely linked with the wider question of the impact of agriculture on the economy of our country. It is but fitting that the Government should have addressed itself to the task of the construction of irrigation projects, for it is a known fact that the agriculturists in our country live in a constant state of insecurity since they had to depend on rains for the cultivation of their lands.



Sri K. Kamaraj, Chief Minister of Madras, visited the School of Technology at Coimbatore on 19th August 1955.

Historically considered, the Madras State had done pioneering work in the case of irrigation projects. Under the Cholas, the rulers dug up several canals to facilitate agriculture. At the close of the British period, the Chief irrigation systems in Madras State were (1) the Cauvery Delta System, (2) the Lower Coleroon Anicut System, (3) the Ponniar River Systems, (4) The Tambraparni River Systems, (5) The Periyar System, (6) The Palar Anicut System, (7) The Cheyyar Anicut System, (8) The Poiney Anicut System, (9) Willingdon Reservoir, (10) Pelandorai Anicut System, (11) Shatiatope Anicut System.

But these irrigation projects could not answer to the needs of the State since the policy that guided them was conservative in nature and was founded on the idea of getting a *quid pro quo* for the capital invested in each of them. But the Government after the dawn of independence, wedded as it was to the Welfare State ideal, had to view this question from the point of view of the welfare of the people. Financial considerations, return for investment, etc., were only secondary.

Among the new irrigation projects in Madras, the most notable are (1) The Lower Bhavani Project, (2) The Malampuzha Project, (3) The Manimuthar Project. The other projects under execution are—

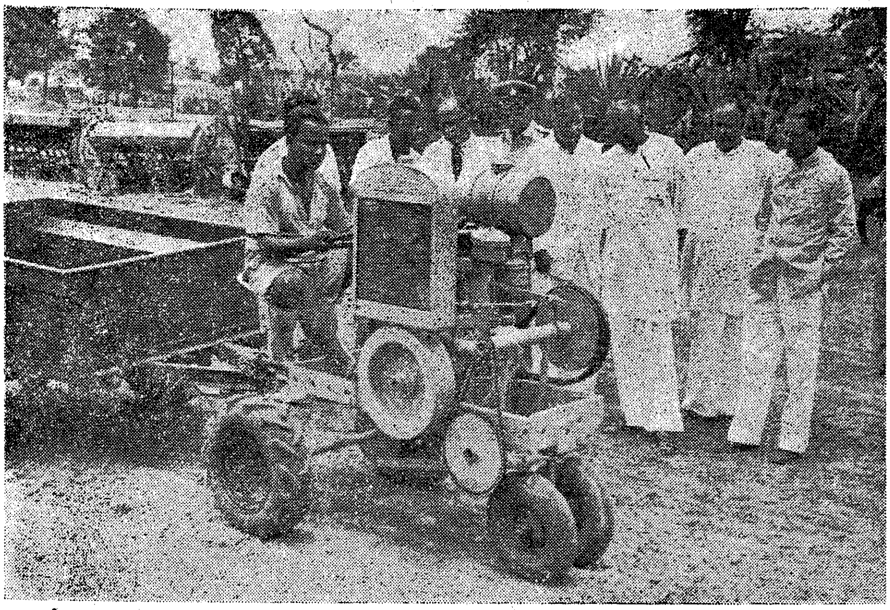
1. Mettur Canal Scheme.
2. Amaravathi Project.
3. Vaigai Reservoir Project.
4. Sathanur Project.
5. Krishnagiri Reservoir Project.
6. Araniar Project.
7. Walayar Reservoir Project.
8. Mangalam Reservoir Scheme.

The Lower Bhavani Project

The Bhavani is a tributary of the Cauvery and has a major portion of its course in the Coimbatore district. It drains a catchment of 2,376 square miles. The project consists in the construction of a dam across the river about ten miles upstream of Satyamangalam. The dam is 28,862 feet long. The main canal taking off on the right side is about 124 miles long and it will irrigate a new area of 207,000 acres mostly dry crops and cotton. The cost of the project is estimated to be nearly Rs. 10 crores. The work on Headworks is completed and that on Canals is nearing completion. The project has already come to beneficial use.

The Malampuzha Project

The project is for the construction of a dam across the Malampuzha river, a tributary of Bharatapuzha, about 5 miles from Olavakode in Palghat taluk of Malabar district. The capacity of the reservoir is about 8,000 M.Cft. The dam will be 6,066 feet long made up of five sections. There will be two canals, one on the left and another on the right for irrigating II crop 40,000 acres and 6,000 acres respectively. The project is expected to produce 11,500 additional tons of rice. It is expected to stabilise the irrigation over 46,000 acres of II crop. It is estimated to cost Rs. 5·2 crores and



Sri K. Kamaraj, Chief Minister, during his recent visit to Coimbatore, inspected the Departmental Tractor Workshop. In the picture is seen a Diesel Engine Small Tractor.

was sanctioned in 1949. The work on the Left Bank Canal is almost nearing completion; the Right bank is just taken up. The project has already come to beneficial use.

Manimuthar Project

This project is for the construction of a reservoir across the Manimuthar river (a tributary of the Tambraparni river) 4 miles from Kallidaikurichi in Tirunelveli district and taking a canal therefrom. The catchment area of the river at the site of the reservoir is 62·4 square miles. The capacity of the reservoir is 5,511 M.Cft. The total length of the dam is about 11,145 feet. It would irrigate about 20,000 acres existing under rainfed tanks. It will also provide assistance to 83,000 acres of existing irrigation under the Tambraparni system. An extra quantity of 20,000 tons of rice is expected to be achieved by the project. The total cost of the project is estimated to be Rs. 505 lakhs.

Mettur Canals Scheme

The proposal is to take a canal from the Mettur Reservoir for irrigating 45,000 acres in Coimbatore and Salem districts. The canal in its two branches east and west would irrigate 27,000 acres in Salem and 18,000 acres in Coimbatore districts, respectively. The schemes was sanctioned in 1949 and it will cost about Rs. 26[illegible]·85 lakhs. The additional food production is expected to be about 17,400 tons of foodgrains.

Amaravathi Project

The project consists of a storage reservoir across the river near the foot of the Western Ghats. The dam will be about 3,715 feet long. The project is expected to irrigate 15,000 acres of land besides stabilising 32,000 acres existing. Its total cost will be of the order of Rs. 297 lakhs. The additional food production expected is 5,400 tons of rice and 2,200 tons of millets.

Vaigai Reservoir Project

The scheme is to divert a greater par of the surplus waters of the Periya which now find their way into th Arabian Sea. The Vaigai Reservoi is proposed mainly to store the water drawn off from the Periyar lake, througl the existing Periyar Tunnel and secon darily to store the surplus waters o the Vaigai river which now go tc waste in the sea. The project will be worked in conjunction with the Periyai Hydro-Electric scheme, which is alsc under execution by the Electricit Department. The dam to be constructed across Vaigai is near Narasingapuram, 20 miles above Peranai and will be 11,675 feet long. The reservoir will have a capacity of 6,8[illegible] M.Cft. Its total cost will be Rs. [illegible] lakhs. The project is expected [illegible] irrigate an additional crop on an area of 20,000 acres and the additional food production expected is 7,500 tons of rice.

Sathanur Project

This is in North Arcot district. The present project consists of a storage reservoir across the river Ponniar about 4½ miles from Sathanur village and 22 miles from Tiruvannamalai. It will bring to irrigation an extent of 16,700 acres of new land and assure supplies of 3,300 of existing wet lands (15,300 in North Arcot and 4,700 in South Arcot district) besides benefiting the existing ayacuts below

(*Continued on page* 20)

Sri K. Kamaraj, Chief Minister, during his recent visit to Coimbatore inspected the Departmental Tractor Workshop. The picture shows a cutting machine at work.

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MADRAS

Our Legislature

The Regulation of Debate

By Sri A. J. SABESAN, M.A., Secretary to the Council

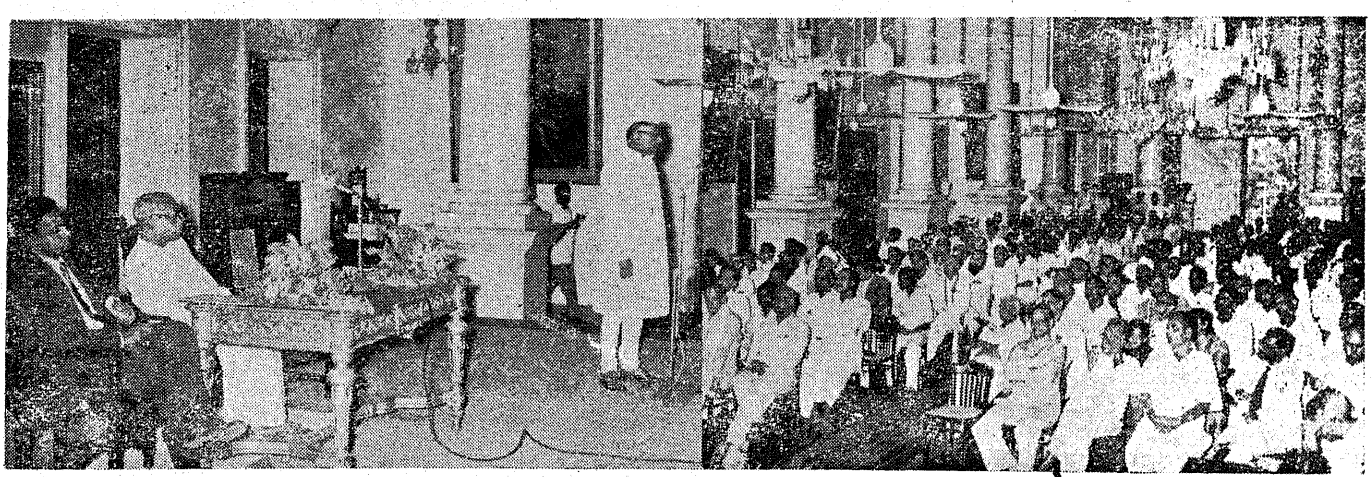
> "*Debate has been historically and is still theoretically a determinant of legislative action. Only through discussion and the expression of opinion by rank and file as well as by leaders can a Legislative Assembly secure the necessary information, isolate issues, determine the 'sense' of the body and proceed to an intelligent decision.*"
>
> —*Lindsay Rogers*

Parliament itself as modern Legislatures are usually called derives its name from *Parlement* (O.Fr.), any meeting for discussion or debate (*Parler* to speak) and originally meant a talk, a Conference, and modern parliamentary Government may be said in a sense to be " Government by discussion " with the nations's representatives. But as distinguished from a deliberate Assembly in the ordinary sense, the debate has to be conducted with freedom and in an orderly manner with the decorum and dignity befitting the " Council of the Nation". There are formal conventions governing the standard of speaking and behaviour in the House. The rules provide for maintenance of order and acceleration of business. Tradition and etiqutte combined with the rules of the House regulate the procedure by which the debate in the Legislature is to be conducted.

Quorum

Any meeting to be regularly constituted must have a certain necessary attendance or " quorum " as it is called. Under Article 189 (3) of the Constitution, the quorum for the Assembly is 24, and for the Council 10. The attention of the Chair may be drawn by any member of the House to the want of quoram at any time. The division bells are then rung and if after an interval of not less than 15 minutes a quoram is till not present, the House is adjourned to the next day on which the House ordinarily sits or to a later hour on the same day to be named by the Speaker/Chairman. (There is no prescribed method of counting and is usnally done by eye-sight.) It is part of the function of the Government Whip therefore to " keep a House " when official business is on and when non-official business is transacted, it is for the member moving the motion to choose a subject which would attract other members. There have been occasions in the House of Commons when a member had himself counted out to his utter confusion and disappointment. Sir Reginald Palgrave records the case of a member who angered by the scanty attendance, "joked about the crowded benches, the packed House that he pretended to see around ". Mischael MacDonaugh records a still more amusing story of a member who began ironically, " Mr. Speaker, look at the condition of these benches—is it not disgraceful that the weighty topic on which I propose to address the House has not attracted even the presence of a quorum ?" The jest was fatal in both cases. A count was taken and for want of a quorum, the House broke up.

There can be no vote and no decision without a precisely framed question. A proposal submitted to the House for formal decision is, therefore, framed in such a manner as to raise a definite issue when it is called a motion, and is moved by the member in whose name it stands on the day it comes up before the House. On such motion



Shri Ajit Prasad Jain, Union Minister for Agriculture, inaugurated the State Farmers' Forum at Rajaji Hall recently

being moved and seconded (where necessary), the Speaker/Chairman states or reads out the question (in the same terms as the motion) as the subject of debate. Members speak on it in the order in which they are called upon by the Speaker/Chairman and on the conclusion of the debate, the Speaker /Chairman puts the question to the vote of the House and decides by voices whether in his judgment the Ayes or Noes have it. If the opinion of the Speaker/Chairman as to the decision of the House is challenged, a division follows.

Division

Ministers who are not members of the House leave the House as they have only the right of taking part in the discussion of the House and not in voting. ...The electric bells in and around the Chamber "ring out a summons to Members to hurry to the Chamber for the division" and they come rushing into the House from the lobbies, the library, the canteen or the party room. After a certain interval, the doors are locked, and the opponents and proponents to the motion in each block successively are counted by the Secretary as they rise in their places on being called by the Speaker/Chairman. After all the blocks have been so counted, the result of the count as given by the Secretary is announced by the Speaker/Chairman to the House and is not to be challenged. The votes of members are published in the official debates so that the constituencies know "who did and who did not do their duty". Before the result is announced, the Speaker/Chairman may, if satisfied that any mistake has been committed in the recording of the votes, allow the same to be corrected. The rules of the Council further provide that if in the Chairman's opinion a division is unnecessarily or frivolously claimed, he may call upon the members who supported and who challenged his decision, successively to rise in their places and may, after counting them, declare the result of the division. The Speaker also on one occasion declared the result after counting those who stood for and those against the motion.

Decision by Majority

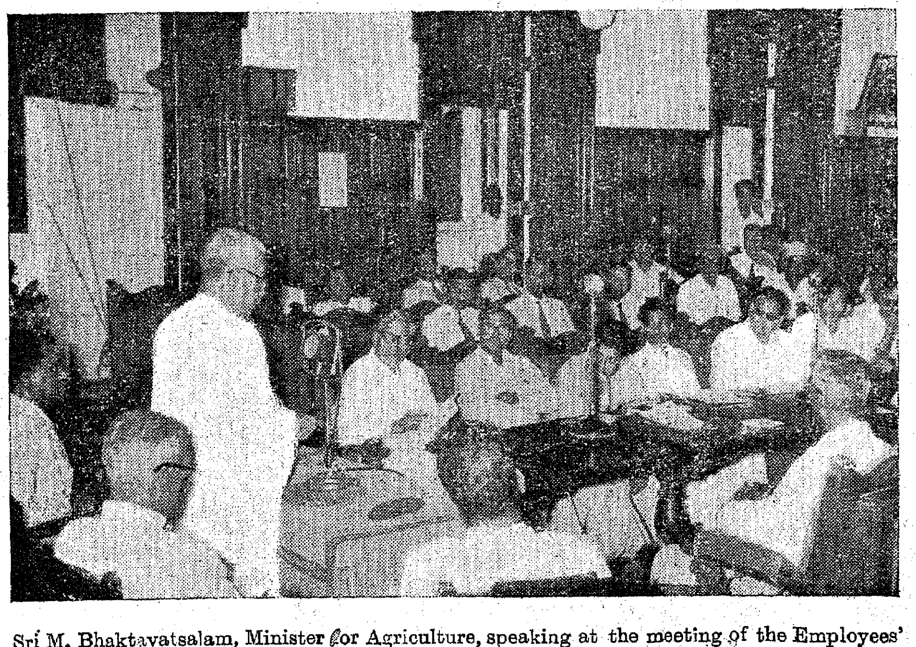
The House may either agree to the motion or negative it. It may also alter the motion by agreeing to an amendment to it. Motions of formal or ceremonial nature are usually passed *nemine contra decente* but unanimity is not always possible in "an adventure involving the participation of two parties—the Government and the Opposition." All questions at any sitting of a House of the Legislature are therefore determined by a majority of the votes of the members present and voting other than the Speaker/Chairman or person acting as such. In the case of an equality of votes, the Speaker /Chairman gives his casting vote with due regard to the principle laid down by Speaker Addington in 1795, namely, to give an opportunity for the discussion of a matter when that was the question before the House and to maintain the *status quo** and also states the reasons for giving his vote in one way or the other. This imposes a great responsibility on the Chair as is illustrated by the oft quoted case of Speaker Abbot's casting vote in favour of the impeachment of Lord Melville.

The will of the majority ascertained as stated above is accepted in lieu of unanimity. At the same time, the minority in the Opposition should be at liberty to criticise the Government, for, as Ilbert says: "The arguments and attitude of minorities and individual members are factors of the greatest importance in determining the action of the Government." The rules of procedure of the Legislature, therefore, secure to the minority, the rights of stating its objections to any proposed measure and of moving amendments thereto. But a minority disagreeing with the majority on fundamental issues may practice "obstruction"—as Speaker Brand put it, "the abuse of the privilege of freedom of debate for the purpose of defeating the will of the Parliament."

In the old Legislative Council, for instance, the Bill to re-enact the Madras Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Act, 1923, was discussed for 12 days, 42 members spoke and 39 divisions were taken. In the House of Commons in the session of 1881 which lasted for 154 days, 14 Irish Members between them delivered, it is said, 3,828 speeches—a daily average of about 25 speeches from that group alone. Such obstruction is in the words of Redlich "the most terrible of foes to Parliamentary order."

Closure

To prevent such wilful obstruction by minorities and as a means of getting through the Government's work without waste of time, a procedure known as the 'Closure' has been adopted. This ends a debate by securing the immediate putting of the question under discussion and had its origin in the celebrated *Coup D'etat* by Speaker Brand on Wednesday, the 2nd February 1881—a historic day in the annals of Parliament—when after the



Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam, Minister for Agriculture, speaking at the meeting of the Employees' and Trade Unions' representatives held at Secretariat on 4th August 1955.

* (eg) Cut motions under Budget Demands on 17-3-1923, 18-3-1924 and 23-3-1925. Amendment to the Madras Borstal Schools Bill on 17-12-1925. Motion to postpone resolutions on 5-8-1932. Adjournment motion to postpone resettlement in Salem and Tiruchirappalli districts on 22-2-1935. Amendment to the resolution relating to elementary education in the Assembly on 29-7-1953.

House had sat for 41 hours, he took a "new and exceptional course" and put the question while the Irish members still wished to continue the debate. At any time after a motion has been made, any member may move that the "question be now put", which is, in effect, that the subject-matter of the motion under discussion be put to vote and if it is carried the question on the particular motion, the debate on which has thus terminated is put and decided without amendment or further debate. In the House of Commons when a motion that the question be now put has been carried and the question consequent thereon has been decided, the further right is given to claim subject to the discretion of the Chair and without having recourse to any further closure motion, that any further question be now put which may be requisite to bring to a decision any question already proposed from the Chair. It lies entirely within the discretion of the Chair to accept the application for closure, or refuse it if it appears to be an abuse of the rules of the House or an infringement of the rights of reasonable debate.

Two other kinds of closure have developed from this in the House of Commons, namely, the "Closure by compartments" by which a time limit is fixed by parliamentary sanction for discussion on the various portions or clauses of a particular Bill and the "Kangaroo Closure" by which the Speaker is empowered to select amendments and so called because "the House hops over the intervening amendments." In our Legislature the Business Advisory Committee of the Assembly-Council, as the case may be, recommends the time to be allocated for the discussion of the stage or stages of such Government Bills as are referred to them and on the House agreeing to the proposed time-table, it takes effect as if it were an Order of the House. The Speaker/Chairman is also given power to select amendments to a Bill or motion under consideration but only to select one out of several identical or substantially identical amendments to be proposed.

Correct Behaviour

There is a standard of correct behaviour for members of the House sanctioned by long usage in the Legislative Assemblies and intended to preserve an atmosphere of calmness and uphold the dignity of the Chair. In the words of an eminent authority on the subject:

> "Members are to stay in their places during a debate, not to walk about the House or stand. When they enter or leave the Chamber they must do so in a dignified way and use the customary ceremonial, making an obeisance to the Chair. Nobody is allowed to pass between the Chair and a member who is addressing him. Speeches are not to be disturbed by noise or interruptions and private conversations must be carried on in a low tone or voice."

Members should not leave the House when the Speaker/Chairman is addressing them. In the interest of the dignity of the House, members of the Opposition in the Council were once advised by the then Chairman not to walk out of the House but to remain in the House and make their protest by abstaining from participating in the deliberations. The Speaker has drawn attention to the objection to members walking out as a protest against his decision. He has also pointed out that members making allegations against the Government should be present at the time the Minister replies to them. Bringing umbrellas or walking sticks into the Chamber, spinning on the Takli, clapping of hands and shouting and reading books, newspapers or other publications except for the purpose of preparing a speech on the subject under discussion are also forbidden. Members are not allowed to make a speech sitting except with the permission of the Speaker/Chairman in exceptional circumstances as for instance, when a member is sick. A member should address his remarks to the Chair and resume his seat if at any time the Speaker/Chairman rises.

Relevancy

The speeches should be relevant to the subject under discussion and should not be merely repetitive of previous discussions. Influencing the debate by bringing in the names of men in authority or criticism of their conduct is not also allowed. Manuscript eloquence is ordinarily deprecated as it takes away the "cut and thrust" of the debate but an exception is made in cases where publicity and accuracy of expression is needed (e.g.), a pronouncement of policy by a Minister and in the case of members who cannot for obvious reasons make extempore speeches. A second speech on the same motion is not allowed except in exercise of the right of reply admissible in the case of a substantive motion and a motion for adjournment of debate to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance. A substantive motion does not include an amendment to a resolution and an amendment to a motion on the Governor's Address.

Catching the Speaker's Eye

Members are also to speak in such order as the Speaker/Chairman may call upon them and are not entitled to speak unless called upon by him. The visitor will therefore find members competing with one another to "catch the Speaker's eye"—in the words of Baldwin "that most elusive organ that Nature has ever yet created," which ordinarily means that in case two or three members rise to speak, the Speaker calls on the member who on rising in his place is first observed by him. A former President described the process involved in this operation as not merely physical but intellectual, and a former Speaker said that members should not try to catch the ear of the Speaker but that they must catch his eye. Our Sepaker has often reminded members that they should not try to catch the Speaker's eye by show of hands. The principle generally followed is that the two sides should be heard alternately—an opponent following an advocate. The whips also give the Speaker/Chairman a list of speakers though he is not bound to "see" according to that list. In the Lords all speeches are addressed to "My Lords" and when two or more members rise to speak, unless one of them gives way, the House calls upon one of them to speak.

An essential requisite in a Government by discussion is formal courtesy as a safeguard against all appearance of personality. The Speaker alone calls a member by name. All members refer to other members as "Honourable" and by the office they hold or the constituency they represent, and not as 'you' as in parliamentary language it means the Chair. An opponent is addressed as an "Honourable Gentleman" and a member of the same party as an "Hon'ble Friend." All members of His Majesty's Counsel are "Honourable and Learned" and all who hold His Majesty's Commission "Honourable and Gallant". This round about method of address serves as "a brake on the swift, acid retort or too personal attack."

Moderate Language

It is also necessary that the language used must be good-tempered and moderate. " Bhajanakoodam " with reference to the Assembly, " Shame ", " Lie and deceit " (பொய்யும், பித்தலாட்டமும்), "Sinister motives", " Colossal ignorance "; "abysmal ignorance "; or " gross ignorance " with reference to Members, are some of the expressions ruled out as unparliamentary. Certain expressions are parliamentary or not according to the circumstances in which they are used. " Challenge " as such is not unparliamentary but " challenge for a duel " is. " Wilful falsehood " is in order but not " deliberate lie." ' A member should not refer to another member as " insolent swine " but if he were to call him " an arrogant porker " it might not be challenged'! " Lie " is unparliamentary but it can be said instead that " a statement when regarded from the stand-point of strict accuracy leaves something to be desired ." " Wonderful " with reference to a Minister is not allowed but " Wonderful motion and wonderful retrenchment " are not objectionable. It is not proper to characterise a statement by a Minister as a " Cock and Bull story " or the Government's acquiescence in the policy of the Union Government as " Do Do Basavanna " or to say that " My friend jumps at every statement of mine like 'Jack in the Box'. " Strong objection has also been taken to reflections on the Chair as for instance, "An appeal to the Speaker not to be led by the Government in the matter of procedure " or that the Speaker gives protection to the Minister by passing on to the next question when a series of supplementaries are put. Words which may or may not be used in debate cannot however be definitely stated and expressions allowed in one Legislature have been disallowed in others. It is therefore necessary to get familiar with the " nuances of parliamentary life " to know what is, and what is not, in order during a speech. Generally speaking, as one Speaker of the House of Commons is said to have stated long ago " a member is entitled by the rules of debate to use such expressions as he may think necessary provided they do not convey any personal reflection on another member and are not disrespectful to the House." Any point of order regarding an unparliamentary expression should be raised then and there as soon as the expression is used. A member is not usually interrupted in his first effort in oratory, a maiden speech, as it is called, if he oversteps the limits but this concession shown to the ' novice ' is not extended to the " Father of the House."

" Order ! Order '! says the Speaker/Chairman when there is a breach of any rule as for instance, passing between the Chair and the member " in possession of the House ". Irrelevancy " the chief temptation to Parliamentary oratory " and repetition the repression of which Lord Ulswater declared to be " beyond human capacity " are promptly interfered with and a member is directed to discontinue his speech if he persists in irrelevancy or repetition. When a member makes a personal attack or uses an unparliamentary expression, the Speaker/Chairman persuades him to withdraw the offensive words he had spoken.

Disorder breaks out at times in spite of all rules and usages relating to debate. A member walked out of the Assembly as he was not given an opportunity to take part in the general discussion on the Budget. A Member of the Legislative Council whose conduct was disorderly was ordered to withdraw from the House. In the event of grave disorder, the sitting itself may be suspended for an hour or adjourned.

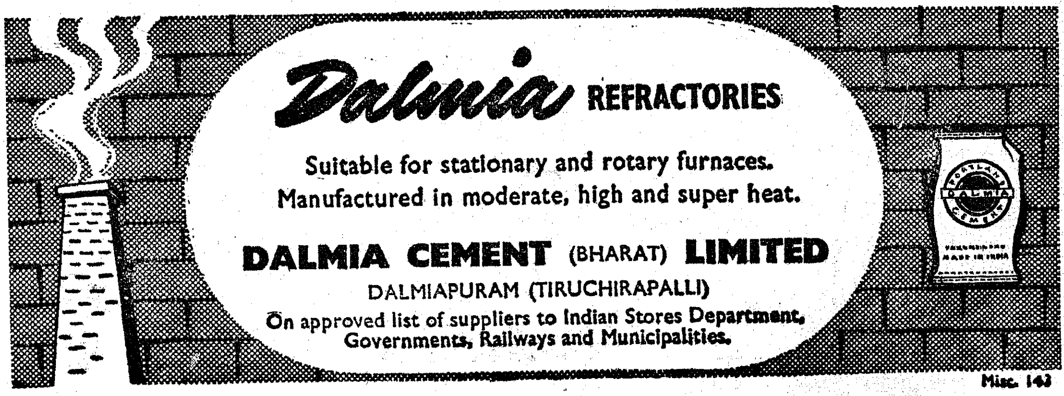
The relationship between the Speaker/Chairman and the individual members has been rightly compared to that between a great Headmaster and a single pupil, and the bedrock on which the authority and usefulness of the Speaker/Chairman depend in his ability as " helmsman " of the House to conduct its business and inspire its deliberations so as to keep the debate on a high level of order, courtesy and dignity, to save the good ship from sinking when it is caught in a winter gale, in short,

(Regulation of Debate).

Electricity Output in April

During April 1955, 690 public utility power stations in India generated 688·6 million kwh (Kilowatt hours) of electricity of Which 563·9 million kwh were sold to ultimate consumers. The new additions during the month were one diesel generating undertaking in Borgarh in Orissa and three purchasing undertakings at Rajangapur town in Orissa and at Nawsari and Rahalgaon in Madhya Pradesh. As compared to March, the electricity output decreased by 7·5 million kwh.

The corresponding figures of output and sale for April 1954 are 604·9 million kwh and 504·4 million kwh and for April 1939 are 204·7 million kwh and 172·0 million kwh respectively.



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MADRAS

An Experiment in Rural Housing

By SRI R. BALASUBRAMANIAM, I.A.S., Formerly Project Execution Officer, Erode and now Collector of Salem

Cheap Houses, a vital need

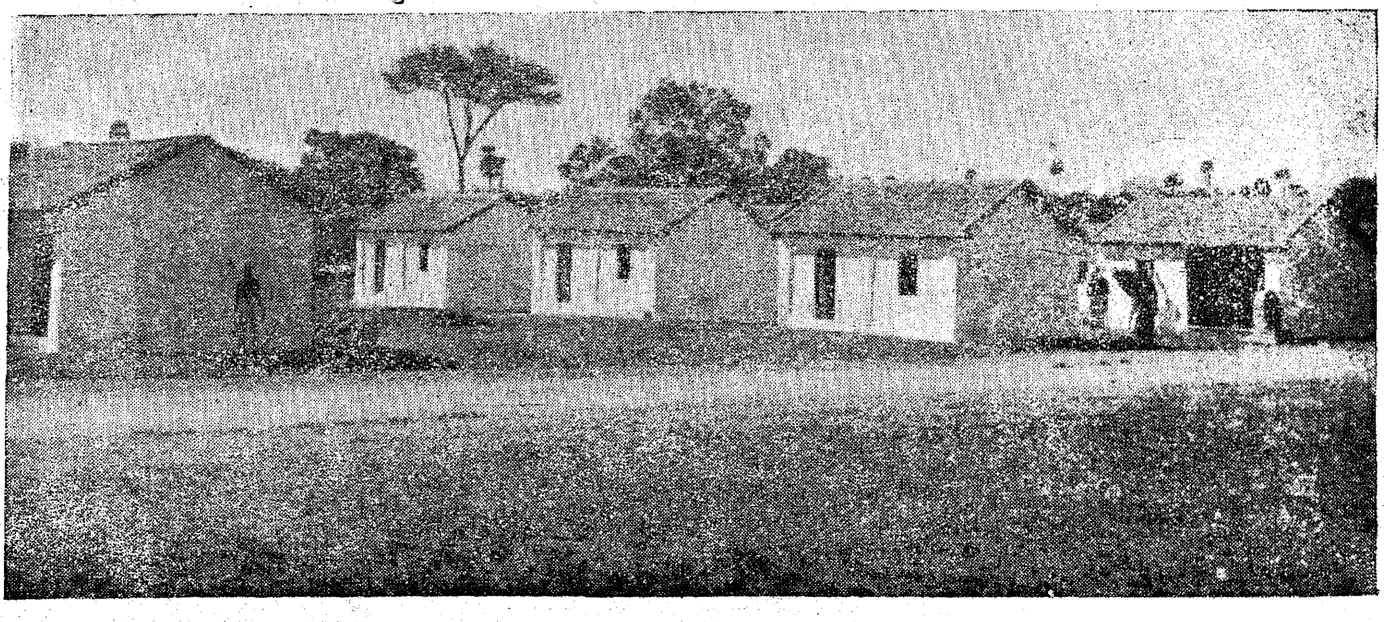
Every foreign visitor to our country is struck by the squalid state of our villages; they are shocked by the tumbled down, mud walled and thatched huts in which our people live in the midst of dirt and filth. This state of affairs is generally found wherever the Harijans live. No one can deny that unless we can improve the living conditions of the villagers and provide them with cheap, yet well-built houses we cannot be said to have really improved the villages. This question of how to provide cheap houses for the people, especially for those in the lowest stratum of society has been engaging the attention of the various State Governments from time to time. In Lower Bhavani Project Area an attempt was made to tackle the problem and it met with some measure of success. This article gives the details of this experiment so that other projects can improve on it and tackle the problem effectively.

In the schematic budget prepared by the Community Projects Administration, no amount was earmarked for rural housing. A sum of Rs. 2 lakhs was proposed to be spent on the housing of the Community Project staff. This was one of the loan items. This amount of Rs. 2 lakhs was proposed to be spent on improving rural housing in a few places atleast as demonstration. Rules were framed by the State Government by which loans could be granted from this amount to people in the villages for building new houses or for improving their existing houses, the maximum loan that could be given in each case being Rs. 750. The object behind this was that by such loans, some people could be persuaded to put up cheap and good houses which could serve as models and encourage others in the village to follow their example. We, in this project, decided that, as much as possible out of this sum was to be spent on providing better houses for the poorest of the poor and the most downtrodden stratum of society, namely, the Harijans.

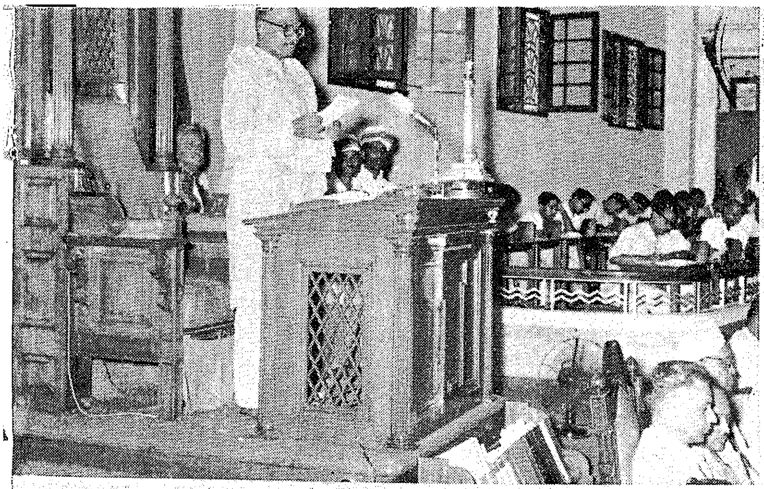
Loans

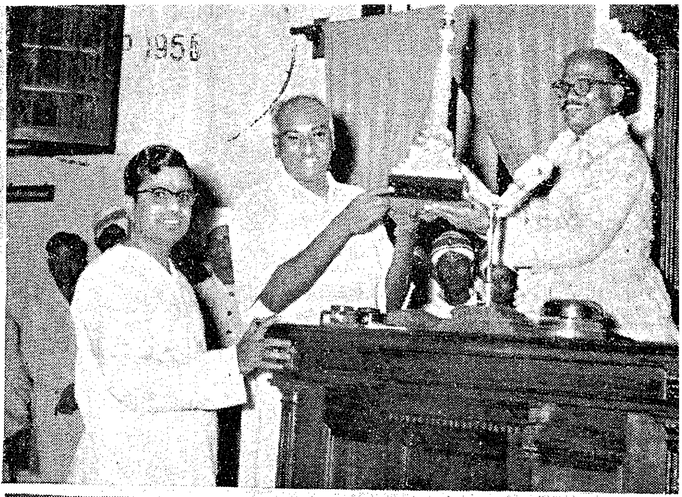
The difficulties in this were many. The money had to be given as a loan. No subsidy was allowed. The expectation was that the person who was given the loan was to repay it in 20 years. The Harijans in this part of the country, as a class, have no habit of saving, and consequently have no reserve worth the name. What they earn generally is just enough to keep body and soul together. Even if by chance the Harijan earns something extra some time or other, he does not save it, but has a celebration and spends it all. From such people, it was difficult to expect repayment of a loan, even if the sum were as low as Rs. 750. To get over this difficulty, it was decided that the amount to be given as loan should be reduced to the minimum possible and it was fixed at Rs. 250, repayable in 20 years.

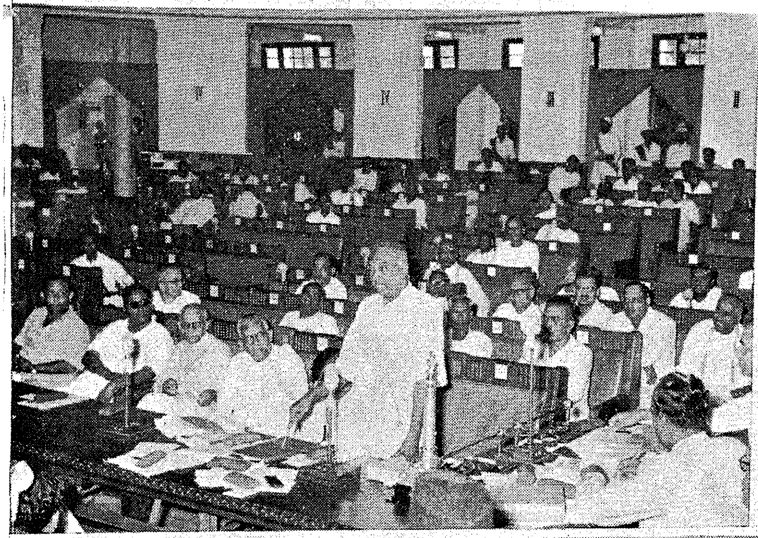
For any loan given, from Government funds, adequate security is always demanded. In the case of the poor Harijans, it was useless to expect that any of them would have any land which he could offer as security for the amount given as loan. The house was no doubt some security,

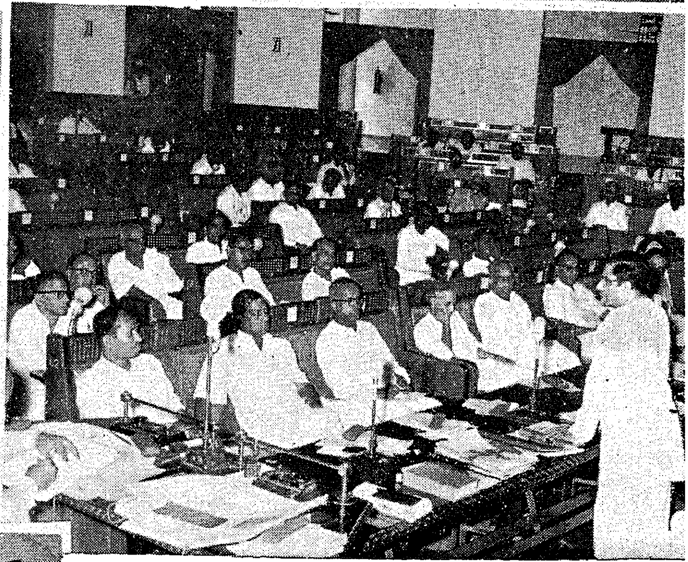


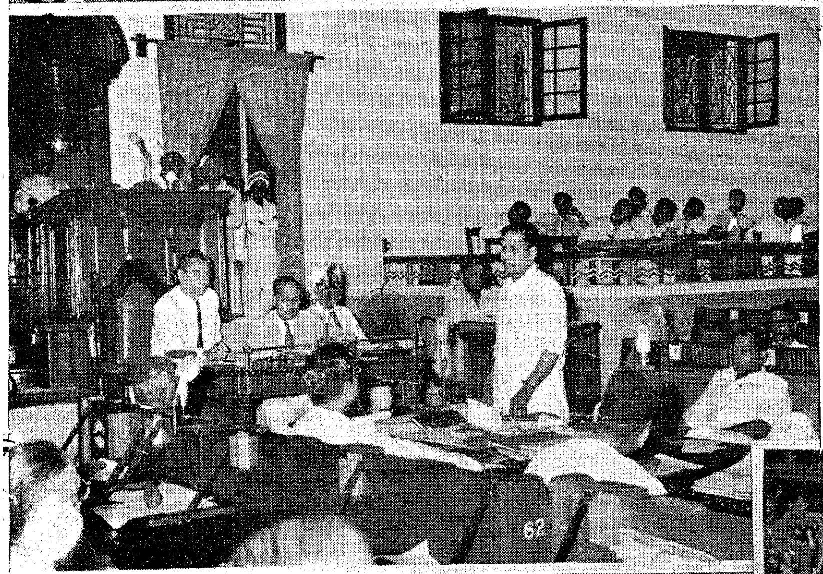
The Harijan colony.



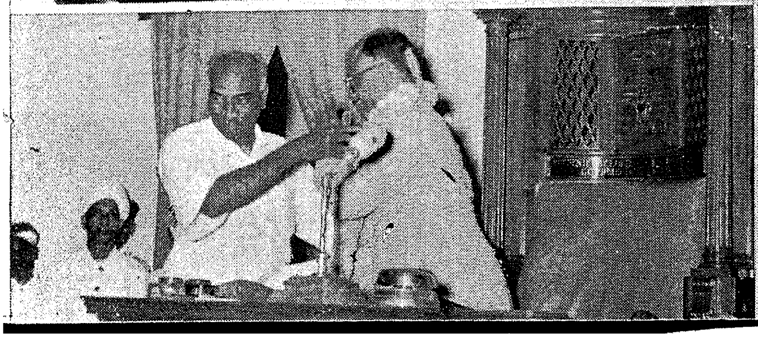


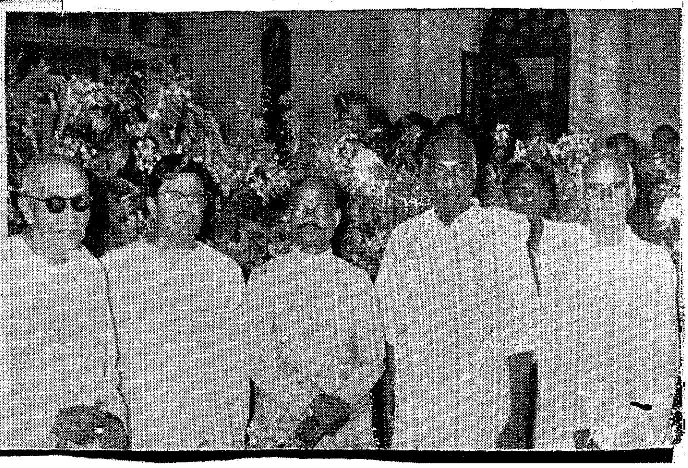


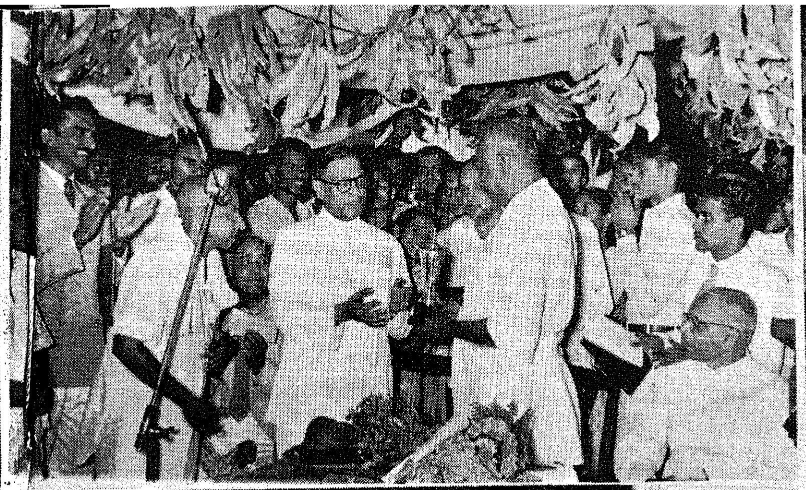


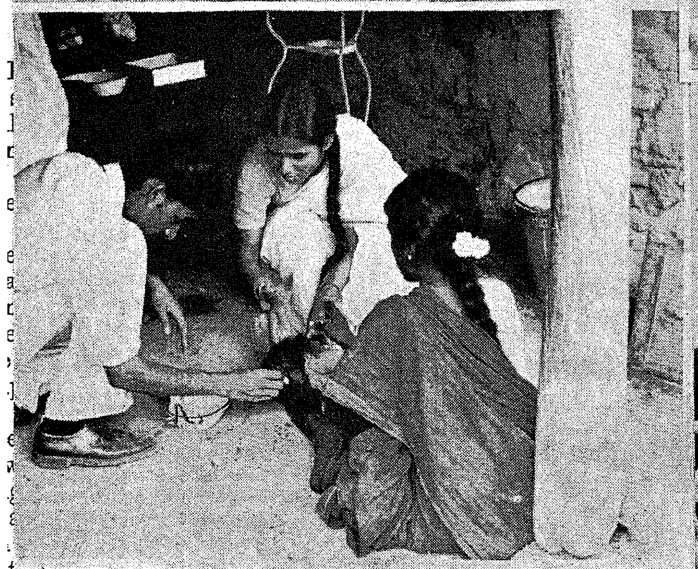
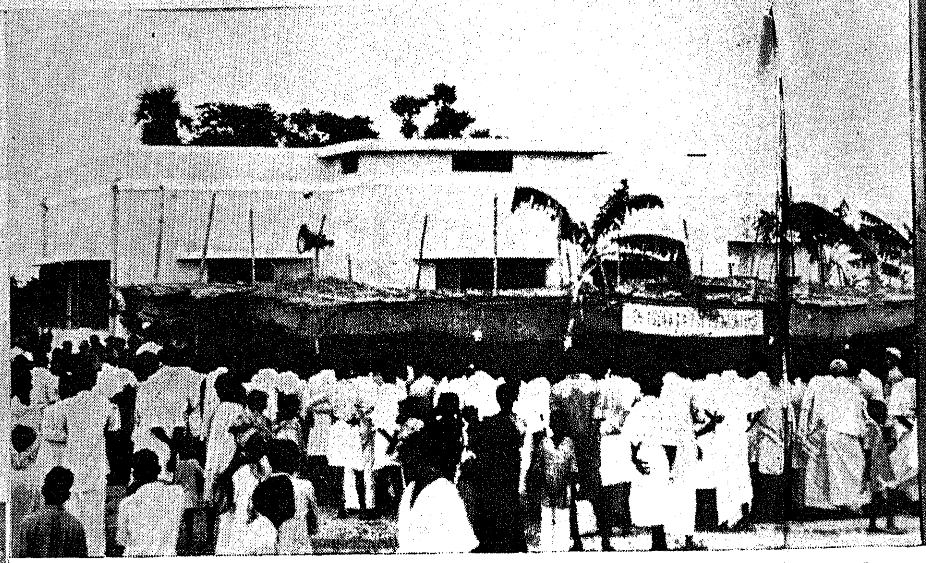


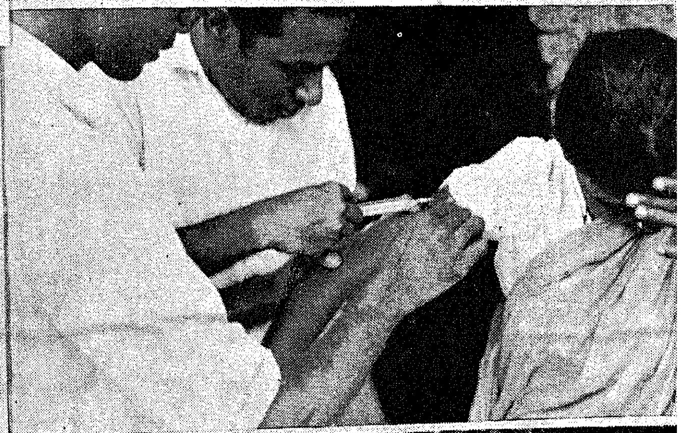
When Sri J. Sivashanmugham Pillai reli quished the office of the Speaker of the Madr Legislative Assembly, tributes were paid him by all sections of the Assembly. This indeed a very tame way of putting it. Fo Sri Sivashanmugham Pillai, by the suprem serenity of his truly Gandhian mind, whi transcended the heat and passions of day-to-da politics, lovingly protected the interests of a sections of the house, irrespective of the political affiliations.





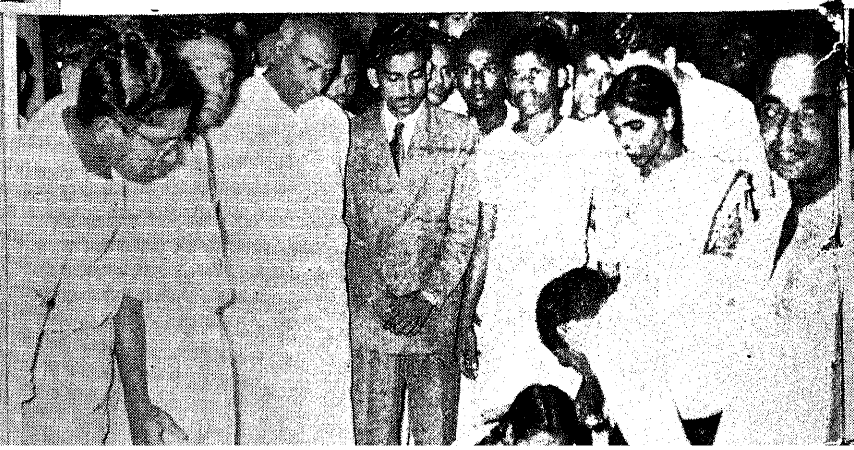


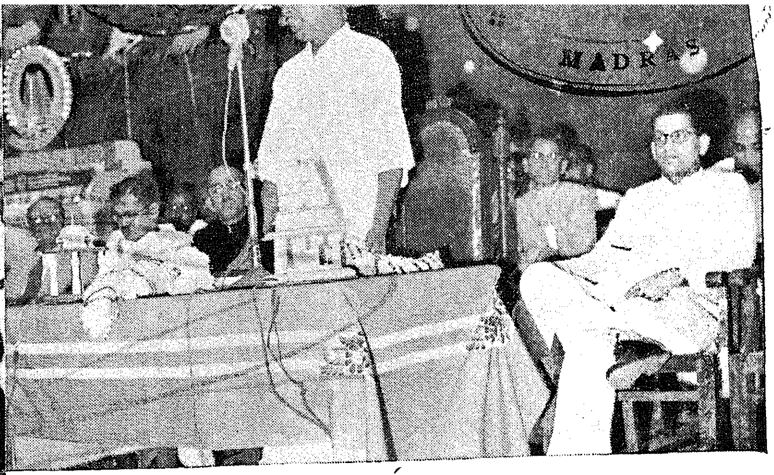





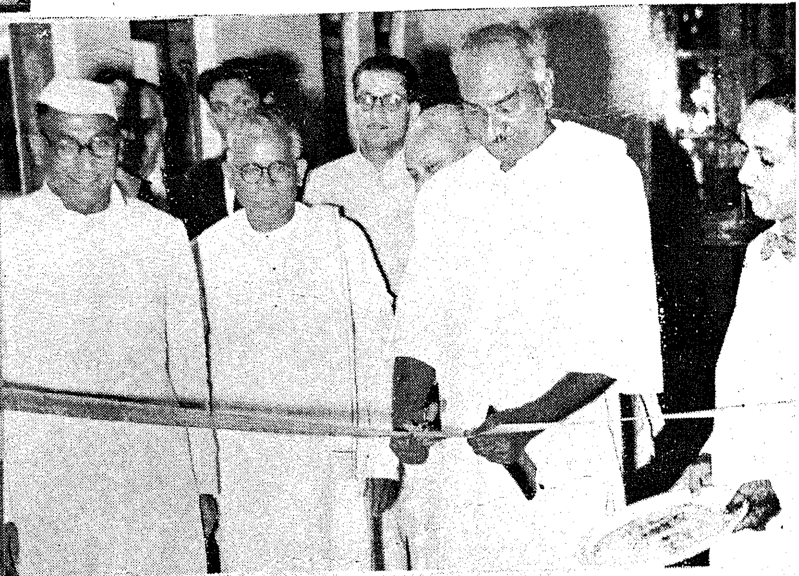
MEDICAL SERVCE AT PAKKAM

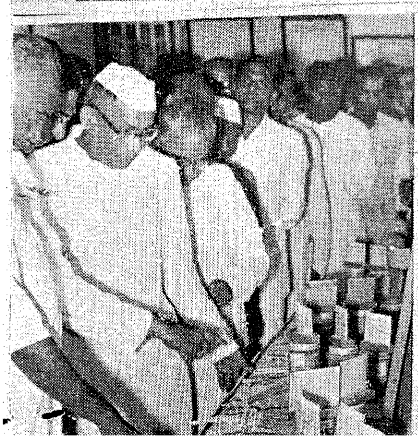
The students of the Madras Medical Colleg have been giving medical aid to the people of Pakkam village for some time now. This ha a significance. The service of the people is entering more and more into the scheme of thngs. It is more and more being realised that doctors, engineers, educationists, lawyers and others of the learned professions have primarily a duty to the public. The days are gone when considerations of career and profits alone motivated the actions of our young educated men. That i the socialistic pattern of society taking shape in the hearts of men, the first and fundamental stp.

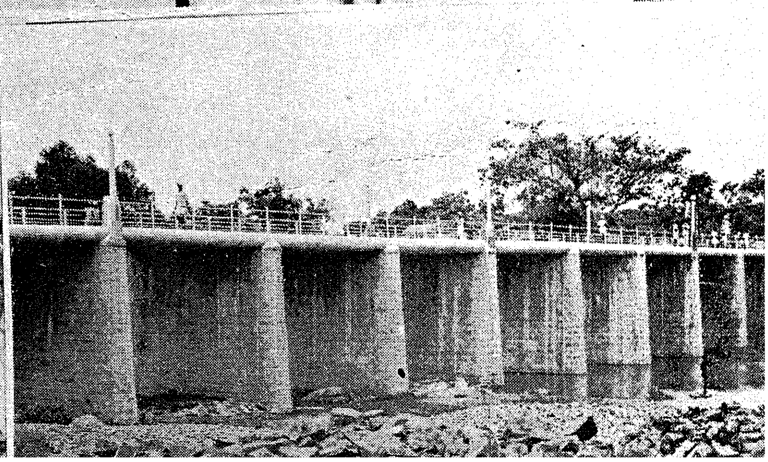




The people of Coimbatore were eager participants in a function which they were awaiting, for long. That was when Sri K. Kamaraj, Chief Minister, ceremonially operated the mechanical sluice gates of Lower Bhavani Project signalising more or less the end of the work on the project. (*Bottom right*) Sri M. A. Manickavelu, Minister for Land Revenue, opened the bridge near Sathanur Project site recently.







but as a matter of fact, it was not sufficient, as, in the event of the Harijan defaulting in the payment of the loan, the house, being in a Harijan locality sold, would not fetch a price to cover the loan amount. With this in view, Government had laid down that where sufficient security could not be given by the loanee, collateral security should be obtained. This was quite a difficult job. In the villages, the caste Hindus are generally not much interested in the Harijans, except for the work they can get out of them. Knowing the thriftless habits of the Harijans, almost all of them were extremely reluctant to stand surety for the Harijans. They felt that the Harijans were sure to default in repayment of the loan and that they would certainly be called upon to make good the loan amount sooner or later. Except in a few cases, it was quite a job to get the richer landlords to agree to stand surety for the Harijans.

Though getting others to stand surety for the Harijans was in itself a problem, it had its advantages as well. Even though the loan was as small Rs. 250 the yearly instalment came to nearly Rs. 18. As said previously, the Harijan is generally thriftless, and we felt it would be difficult for him to scrape together a sum of Rs. 18 or so once a year when called upon to pay the instalment due. As the person who stands surety has an interest in the Harijan not defaulting, we hoped that he would be able to persuade the Harijan to make monthly payments of Rs. 1–8–0 or so, which would not be very difficult for the Harijan. It is to be seen how far this hope is realised.

The nature of the structure

It was impossible to conceive of any decent dwelling being put up on Rs. 250. As the loan was repayable in 20 years, it was necessary that the house which was put up with the amount should last 20 years at least, (i.e.), be either a permanent or semi-permanent structure. This automatically ruled out the usual thatched hut. Further it was felt that if, after all this the Harijan could not be given anything more substantial than a thatched hut, with its heavy annual repairs and risk of fire, the scheme was not worth trying. The house which was aimed at had therefore to have pucca tiled roof and was to have a cement floor which could be washed and kept clean. How to build such a house at a very low cost was a problem. The solution obviously lay in eliminating everything except the bare essentials, consistent with the safety of the structure and in using the materials which were locally available either free or cheap. The problem was posed to the engineers working in the Community Project area and various suggestions were given to them. Finally a design which had been drawn up by the consulting Architect to Government of Madras was taken, modified suitably and was used.

Stone is cheap and is easily available in this area. Hence, it was decided to use stone in the construction of the houses. Also, since stone has to be blasted out wherever wells were dug, it was felt that it would be possible to persuade the villagers to give the necessary amount of stone free. The weight of the roof was to be supported on pillars made of stone in clay and the intervening walls were to be of earth. (I may mention here that the earth available in this area is very good and the walls built of this earth dry out very hard and firm, and are capable of taking quite some load.) Palmyra scantlings and country wood reapers were to be used for the roof. The roofing material was to be country tiles or Calicut tiles whichever was cheaper at the place. To protect the pillars and the walls from the action of weather, they were to be plastered all over with lime mortar. The floor was to be plastered with cement mortar. All this, when worked out, was estimated to cost not less than Rs. 500.

Their Contribution

As only Rs. 250 was being given as loan, the balance of the cost had to be met otherwise. It was found that the amount being given as loan would be just sufficient for the tiles, cement, a quantity of timber and skilled labour. The rest of the materials, etc., for the house had to be found by local contribution and by voluntary labour. We decided that, if the villagers gave stones and earth free and also lent their carts for the carting of these to the work spot, if they further gave each Harijan two palmyra trees (palm gur experts may kindly note that only trees not fit for tapping were to be used) and if the Harijan put in labour on the houses either free or at subsistence wages, it would be possible to put up these houses with the amount advanced as loan.

We went around various villages canvassing support for this scheme. In most villages, the richer ryots felt shy of undertaking the responsibility. In some villages, the Harijans felt that it was up to Government to give them good houses and that they should not be expected, nor could afford to contribute labour free. We were very keen to have this scheme tried out in one village at least, as we felt that the scheme was feasible and that once the people saw that such houses could be built they would come forward in larger numbers to take up such schemes. Fortunately, we were able to enlist the co-operation of one Sri Muthuswamy Gounder, a public spirited Social Worker of Monjanur village in Karur taluk of Tiruchirappalli district. This gentleman had faith in the honesty of the Harijans and was not only prepared to stand surety for them, but also undertook the difficult job of supervising the construction of the houses.

A good piece of Government land, which was fit for assignment as house-site was chosen. The land was divided into suitable plots and a layout was prepared. Applications were taken from the Harijans concerned and the plots were got assigned to them. The villagers, thanks to the efforts of Sri Muthuswamy Gounder, gave stones, earth and palmyra trees free of cost to the Harijans. The Harijans themselves worked on the houses for nearly two months at subsistence wages of about 10 annas per day. A colony of 16 houses was thus constructed in Kandaswamypalayam, a hamlet of the village of Monjanur mentioned before.

Colony Opened

Sri M. Bakthavatsalam, the Minister for Agriculture and Community Development in Madras State, laid the foundation stone for the colony on 28th November 1954. The colony was completed and was declared open by the Chief Minister of Madras State Sri K. Kamaraj Nadar on the 3rd February 1955. Thanks to the constant and untiring efforts of Sri Muthuswamy, the colony was completed in the record time of two months.

As can be seen from the account given above the scheme of Harijan Colonies tried out in this project is an example of real community work, in

which members of all classes of society in the village co-operated to improve the living conditions of their poorer brethern. As such, this project is proud to hail such Harijan Colonies as an important achievement in the sphere of Community Development. Apart from the material aspect of the scheme, in that it provided well ventilated good houses for the Harijans, another welcome aspect was noticed. It was that there was an improvement in the relationship between the Harijans on the one hand, and the other villagers on the other. An example of this was seen in the behaviour of the masons who were called in to do the skilled work on the houses at Kandaswamipalayam. These at first refused even to work with the clay puddle mixed by water drawn by the Harijan women, but gradually, as the work progressed, it was found that they, by themselves, gave up their objections and towards the end, they were found taking their food side by side with the Harijans.

Some criticisms have been levelled against this scheme and it is but fair that I should mention them. We do not claim perfection for the scheme and it should be borne in mind that all along our attempt was to provide the Harijans something better than what they were having now so that their way of life received a forward impetus and that this was to be done at no great cost to the State.

Criticisms

The first criticism was that the houses were very small. To this our answer would be that the houses were definitely bigger than what the Harijans were having now and that they were cleaner and better built. The second criticism was that in making the richer ryot stand surety for the Harijan, there was the likelihood of the poor Harijan coming under the power of the rich ryot who stood surety for him. To this, my answer is that every rose has a thorn and that every scheme has some risk involved in it. Even when lands were assigned on conditional terms to Harijans, it has been found that in a number of cases, the lands were mortgaged to the richer ryots. It is the usual law of life that the poorer people do in some way or other become dependent on the richer ones. In the case of these colonies, however, we hope that the Community spirit that gave rise to the colonies will continue and that the risk envisaged above may not materialize. There is also the fact that since these houses are built in a Harijan area, the richer caste Hindus may not be interested in acquiring any of the houses.

An Incentive

We are glad to see that as was anticipated, the completion of one colony has acted as an incentive for people in a number of other villages to take up similar schemes. We have a number of such colonies under construction in this project and we are happy and proud to have been able to do something to better the conditions of the Harijans in this area.

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS

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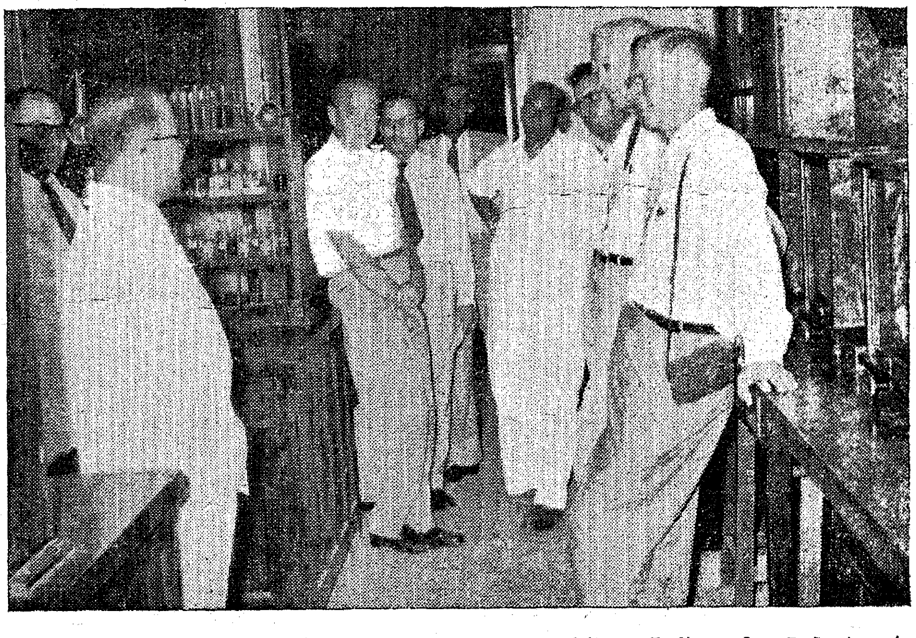


The Tennesse State University Survey Team on a visit to India under Indo-American Technical Assistance Programme visited the Madras Veterinary College recently. The picture shows the members of the Team at the College Laboratory.

Making the Good Earth Better

Change in Perspectives

"Ugh!" said old Lalu, bending over the pale leaves of a paddy plant in the hands of his grandson. At the back of his mind he felt a nagging perplexity. No answering look of comprehension came from his rheumy eyes till a while later, when he gave a toothless grin.

His wizened knoutty fingers ran over the leaves with a caressing touch.

"Your friend must be right," he seemed reminiscing, nostalgically hugging the past though, "you know, the times have changed." His grandson looked at his companion nearby, a cheerful youth who was the newly-come village extension worker.

Yes, times have changed.... And what is more, Time has placed Indian agriculture in perspective. The more so in post-Independent India, with planned development aimed at both by the Centre and State Governments.

Not so long ago, Indian farming, at least most of it, was a hit-and-miss affair. It was a simple routine and had a narrow boundary. Land was prepared, seed sown, what manure was available applied. The rest was guesswork, hope and prayer—the last mostly. It had existed for a long, long time that way, in a state of backwardness and misery, behind the thin veneer of a compacent faith that the pencil of Fate—Kismet to the Indian farmer—has no eraser.

But times have changed tangibly. Farming in India is ceasing to be a haphazard venture. Knowledge and experience, coming washed up on the stream of Government research spread over the years, but beyond the reach of Lalu in his youth, is available in good measure for his grandson. In Lalu's days who had, for instance, heard of radio isotopes holding out better hopes for the farmers? Yet, today, radio isotopes are being used in experiments at the Indian Agricultural Research Institute to detect causes of malmutrition in plant life.

Soil Surveys

Half a century ago, the composition of soils hardly aroused the interest it does today. Soil surveys have now become an integral part of agrarian development. Soils differ from region to region; some are deficient in phosphate, others in potash or trace elements, almost all in nitrigen. Soil surveys have been in progress for some time, and the composition of some areas have already been mapped out.

Why all the fuss over soil surveys, old Lalu might ask. His grandson has a ready answer. Soil studies render easy the task of applying fertilizers effectively, the minimum with maximum effect.

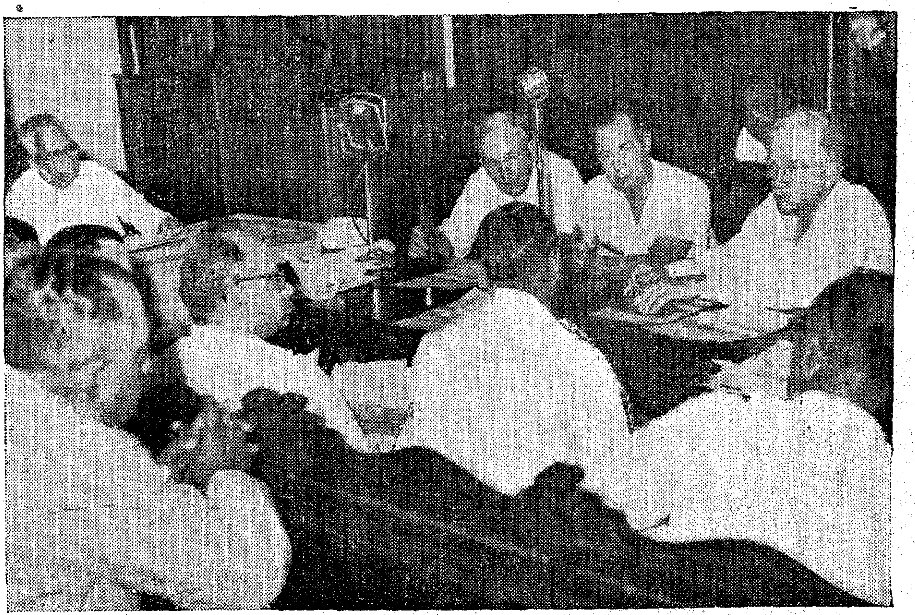
During nearly the first half of the present century, the response of soils to phosphates had perplexed many. Surface dressings failed to produce results. As science probed deeper, it discovered that phosphates could encourage root-growth. Lalu had never known that phosphates placed with seeds at defined depths would produce better crops. Fertilizer placement has assumed an importance today which it never had before.

Manures and Fertilizers

Even in the field of manures and fertilizers, new aids to increase production have been introduced. Rural compost might not have been anything new even in Lalu's time, but urban compost was. Both are now fairly well organized. There exist today farms fed by town sullage and sewage.

Mere ploughing of a sort is not enough to prepare the land for cultivation. It is the way that the land is ploughed that matters. Old implements which Lalu handled never turned the soil well. Modern ploughs do. So, with other agricultural implements, too. Labour-saving efficiency has come with modern threshers, just to cite one instance.

In the old days, after ploughing the seeds were broadcast. The advantages of line-sowing were unknown. Adopted



The American members of the Indo-American Team set up for reviewing agricultural and veterinary research, education and extension in India for assistance under the T.C.M. Aid met Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam, Minister for Agriculture, at the Secretariat and had discussions with him.

and tried by countless farmers, line-sowing has shown its superiority over the broadcast method.

Again, correct sowing alone is not enough. It is what one sows that really matters. Lalu could sow only what came his way from his old seed-stocks. His grandson is more favourably placed, having access to improved and better seeds.

And from where have the improved seeds come ? Plant breeding and plant introduction experiments conducted at the various Government research institutes make available to the farmers today high-yielding and disease-resistant strains of various crops.

Some thirty years ago, tube-well irrigation was almost a rumour. Later, as the concept took roots, it emerged first as a State enterprise and then as a mode of irrigation popular with thousands of farmers. The tube-well is something new by way of irrigation methods successfully tried in India.

Crop Care

When crops are growing, they require a lot of care—especially against pests and diseases. Plant Protection as a State Service is a new wing to agricultural development unknown a decade ago. The importance of this service is highlighted by the fact that India annually loses about 20 per cent of her food crops due to pests and diseases. Research spread over half a century is today producing practical results beneficial to the farmers. Control of weeds by hormone weed-killers, and aerial operations against pests undertaken successfully in recent years, are facets of development unknown a generation ago.

Dry farming opens up a new vista for Indian farmers. Borrowed from the West and developed in recent years, it goes to help grow millets in areas of uncertain rainfall. Where farmers once used to look up woefully at the sky, scanning for the slightest hint of even a meagre rainfall, the prospect is not so hopeless today.

So does soil conservation with its concomitant measures like contour bunding, unpractised generally a few decades ago, but today calling a halt to the erosion of precious top-soil.

Nor are good harvests alone enough. Comes the question of storage —and marketing. In both, vast changes have made themselves felt, and greater benefits have accrued in the wake of movements like Co-operation and Agricultural Grading. The former brought economic security and progress easily accessible to cohesive groups of rural communities in chosen lines of endeavour ; the latter, with its finger on the pulse of quality, assured the cultivator of a reasonable price for his produce. In the field of fruits and vegetables, new ideas of preservation and canning have leavened progress, and fostered a new industry.

Animal Husbandry

Animal husbandry, an important aspect of agriculture, has made equally important strides in recent years. Artificial insemination of cattle, modern methods of preservation of sera and vaccine, herd registers—all have gone to improve cattle development in India. Rinderpest is no longer the scourge that it was. Dairy development has registered considerable progress, evidenced in the milk colonies found in most of the big cities of India today. More recent and of great promise are the dry milk powder factories, now proposed, which will save surplus milk from going to waste.

Even meteorology has been tapped to help the farmer. In his youth, Lalu would have, with palms cupped over his eyes to shut out the glare, scanned the horizon to unravel weather from the mood of wind and sky. But his grandson, today, has special Farmer's Bulletins, given regionwise, telling him what to expect of weather, the farmer's friend and foe alike, tipping him off how to regulate farm operations in his region.

Persuasive Approach

Here comes Extension a new philosophy of persuasive approach as between the farmer and the village worker a two-way street of tutorial public relations which keeps the contacts between the villager and scientist a continuous, live process. The results of research are brought to the doors of the farmer and his problems conveyed back for remedial suggestions. Extension workers encourage improved farming techniques and bring new life to all farm activity. Lalu never had this benefit, now so freely available to his grandson.

Old Lalu's toothless grin is more than a happy gesture. It is an overt tribute to the changing yet beneficial milieu in which his grandson finds himself today.

IRRIGATION IN MADRAS STATE

(*Continued from page* 11)

the reservoir. The total cost of the project is estimated at Rs. 263 lakhs and got technically sanctioned for Rs. 289 lakhs.

Krishnagiri Reservoir Project

The proposal is to form a reservoir across the Ponniar in Krishnagiri taluk (Salem district) at a site about 2 miles west of mile 163/4 of the Madras-Calicut Trunk road in the village limits of Periyamuthur. The capacity of the reservoir will be 2,410 M.Cft. The cost of the Project is expected to be Rs. 184·03 lakhs including direct and indirect charges. The project was sanctioned in 1954 and inaugurated early in 1955. The additional food production will be 3,500 tons.

Araniar Project

The project is expected to irrigate a new area of 2,530 acres and stabilise supplies to 2,970 acres by the reservoir channels and supplement supplies to 5,700 by the Pick-up anicut and channel all in Chingleput district.

Walayar Project

The Walayar Scheme in Palghat taluk of Malabar district contemplates assurance of better irrigation facilities to 6,500 acres of II crop which are now entirely dependent on rains. The proposal is to form a dam consisting of both masonry and earth sections of a total length of about a mile across the Walayar. The scheme sanctioned by Government is for Rs. 99.92 lakhs including direct and indirect charges but due to certain changes in design etc., the estimate is under revision.

Mangalam Reservoir Scheme

Mangalam River which joins the Gayatripuzha in Padur village limtis of Palghat taluk at its western boundary, forms just above the confluence, the dividing line between Travancore-Cochin State and Madras. The cost of the scheme as sanctioned by Government originally was Rs. 44·20 lakhs inclusive of direct and indirect charges and this is for a storage of 250 M.Cft, contemplated to benefit 3,735 acres. The scheme as modified now is to benefit 6,000 acres in Madras State limits besides giving 300 M.Cft. to Travancore-Cochin State. The revised cost as approved by Government is Rs. 88·65 lakhs. It has been technically sanctioned for Rs. 97·51 lakhs.

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Tirumalai Kumaraswami Temple, Panpoli

By Sri V. SANKARANARAYANAN, Executive Officer

Tirumalai Kumaraswamy temple is built on the top of a bare steep rock two to three hundred feet high near the village of Panpoli, eight miles north-west of Tenkasi. The temple with its detached shrines forms a conspicuous object on the landscape for many miles around. It is approached from the south by some hundreds of steps cut in the solid rock. By the side of the temple is excavated a tank which traps all the rain that falls on the summit but runs almost dry during summer. The temple has no architectural merit and is much patched. The tamarind tree with an Amman and a spear உத்தண்ட வேலாயுதம் at the foot is said to be the earliest symbol of religion on this rocky summit.

The idol of Subramaniaswamy appears to have been brought from an old fort " Kottai Tiradu " near the river Hanumanadhi on the north. A small temple was built at first and its enlargement to its present state is a work of comparatively recent times. The chief author of the work is a marava woman named Sivagami Paradesi who levied contributions of labour and money and recovered by law suits the lands that passed from the hands of the temple. She even approached the then Collector of the District, Sir Henry Levinge, who allotted 22 kottahs of land suitable for wet cultivation on darkhast for the benefit of the temple. She died 60 years ago and the temple authorities built a matam over her samadhi and daily pooja is done to it by the Devasthanam. The temple is well endowed. The main festival comes off every January in the month of THAI. Sri Subrahmaniaswamy is then taken to the branch temple (Nagariswarammudiar Koil) in the village Panpoli where the ten days festival is celebrated with much pomp. There are a few inscriptions in this branch temple dated 15th and 16th centuries relating mostly to the services of later Pandya rulers who endowed lands for the various services in the temples. Two years ago the temple and its approach were provided with electric lights. Fresh water is baled up and distributed from a deep well from below for the convenience of the pilgrims.

Vaikasi Vishak day in May–June attracts a very large crowd when offerings of Kavadi and coins are made to God Murugan. The nearest Railway Station is Shencottah five miles south of the temple.

Dairy Goats of Malabar

The outstanding dairy animal of the West Coast is the Malabar Goat. The Malabar goat is also the best dairy goat among the goats of this State.

The present stock of Malabar dairy goats is the progeny of the imported goats from Arabia, Kutch, Surath and the local goats. The coastal trading Arabs seem to have played the main part in the introduction of the goats in this area in the by-gone days.

The colour, confirmation and the milking qualities vary from animal to animal. The goats are white in colour, are of medium size with short ears. Goats of black colour big size body, long ears and Roman nose are also found in the tract. The colour of these animals may range from pure white to different shades and to jet black.

These dairy goats are heavy milkers, yielding on an average 450 lb. in a lactation period of 150 days. They are prolific breeders also.

The general taboo against the scrub goat should never go against the dairy goat. The dairy goat is a very economical animal which produces the wholesome milk. The milk of the dairy goat has no smell as is generally believed by the people, when milked in hygienic conditions. The goat's milk is exactly like the cow's milk in taste.

An attempt is now made in the District Livestock Farm, Malabar, to breed a homogenous stock of Malabar dairy goats with heavy milking qualities from the stock selected from the tract.

The following chart will give a Comparison between the Composition of Goat's Milk and Cow's Milk.

Species.	*Fat. per cent.*	*Protien per cent.*	*Lactose per cent.*	*Ash. per cent.*	*Total Solids percent.*	*Authority.*
Goat ..	4·09	3·71	4·20	0·78	12·86	Frahm
Cow ..	4·00	3·50	4·90	0·70	13·10	Computed.

India's Exports

India's exports of food, drink and tobacco during 1954–55 were valued at Rs. 198·6 crores.

Her exports of raw materials and mainly unmanufactured articles during the same period were valued at Rs. 118·33 crores, while the value of articles wholly or mainly manufactured was Rs. 250·64 crores.

During the first three and half years of the Five-Year Plan, 330 miles of new roads were constructed, 2,434 miles of existing roads improved and 25 major bridges completed.

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8 - SEP 1955
MADRAS

Truth About B.C.G.

The Government of Madras have published a pamphlet 'Truth about B.C.G.—Why Government have launched a Mass Campaign'. The pamphlet is divided into two parts, the first giving in the form of simple questions and answers the truth about B.C.G., and the second dealing with the specific criticisms levelled by Sri C. Rajagopalachari in his booklet on B.C.G. The pamphlet deals with the various aspects that have caused certain misgivings in the public mind as a result particularly of the campaign carried on by Sri C. Rajagopalachari, viz., the harmlessness or otherwise of the B.C.G. vaccination, its suitability for Indian conditions, the results obtained in foreign countries, and the views of leading medical men of the word and so on.

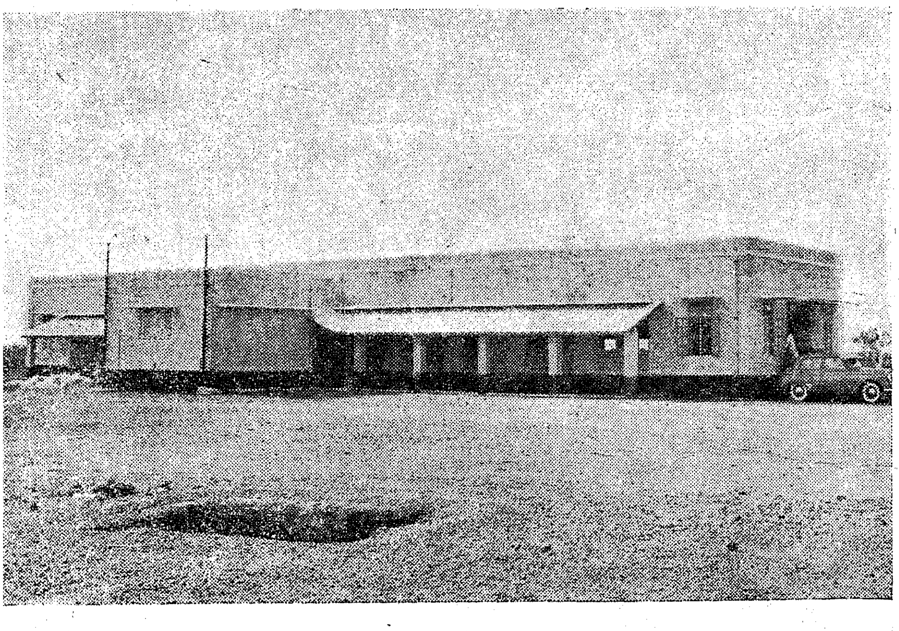
Sri C. Rajagopalachari bases his campaign " on the definite pronouncements of most eminent and illustrious medical men of the civilized world ". Is this correct ? Are all the experts whose statements he has cited with approval, in favour of the conclusion which he has drawn from those statements ? Are the experts who agree with his conclusions, in fact among the " most eminent and illustrious medical men of the civilized world " ?. The pamphlet proves that the answers to these questions are clearly in the negative.

We will now quote in extenso from the first part of the book, giving some of the basic facts about B.C.G. for the benefit of our readers.

The Basic Facts

What is B.C.G. vaccine ?

B.C.G. vaccine is made from a special strain of Tubercle bacilli which has been attenuated, so that, it is now incapable of producing, on injection progressive tuberculosis. It was discovered many years ago by two French Scientists, Professor Albert Calmette and Dr. Guerin of Pasteur Institute of Paris. Hence the name B.C.G. (Bacillus Calmette Guerin) vaccine.



A view of the T. B. Sanatorium at Somanathapuram, Ramanathapuram District declared open by Sri K. Kamaraj, Chief Minister recently.

What is B.C.G. vaccination ?

Just like vaccination against smallpox, this is a vaccination for preventing Tuberculosis. It is one of the effective methods of reducing the incidence of T.B. and also the mortality from it. It is at present the only known practical method of inducing specific resistance to T.B.

Can every one be vaccinated with B.C.G. ?

B.C.G. vaccine is not to be administered indiscriminately, because it can be of benefit only to those persons who have not developed a natural resistance against tuberculosis infection. Also B.C.G. vaccine has no value in the treatment of Tuberculosis disease.

How can it be found out whether a person has any resistance against Tuberculosis or not ?

By means of a simple test known as the Tuberculin test. Tuberculin is an extract prepared by special methods from killed Tubercle Bacilli. It has the property of causing a local reaction, when it comes into contact with a person who has developed a natural resistance against T.B. but not with one who has no such resistance. Tuberculin test is made by injecting a drop of a suitable dilution of purified tuberculin into the skin of the forearm. A positive reaction is one that shows a small reddish thickness at the site of injection on the third day, when the reading is made. The reaction is negative, if there is nothing seen at the site of inoculation or if the thickening is below the standard size. (6m.m.)

What does a positive Tuberculin reaction indicate ?

It indicates that the person has had a natural infection some time previously with Tuberculosis which has resulted in the development of antibodies in the system against Tubercle

bacilli. Those anti-bodies offer a considerable amount of protection (immunity) against a future tuberculosis infection from outside. From wide experience, it is known that this protection is not absolute, but about 80 per cent.

If natural Tuberculosis infection can give 80 per cent protection, why not allow the people to obtain immunity in this way ?

It is true that obtaining infection from natural sources, viz., from other human beings, affords a certain degree of protection. Nevertheless in some cases, this same infection may lead to acute tuberculosis immediately or at a later date. Such a danger of tuberculosis arising from first infection can never occur after B.C.G. vaccination which produces an immunity without any disease in the lung.

How does B.C.G. vaccination help the tuberculin non-reactors who need protection ?

B.C.G. vaccine has the power to convert the non-reactors into reactors to tuberculin in a harmless way. It confers almost the same immunity as occurs after a natural infection with T.B. but it does so without the risk of some devoloping T.B. as a result of it.

How effective is B.C.G. vaccination ?

By vaccinating non-reactors a very high percentage of them (98–99 per cent) may be converted into reacters. That means, that they will have, as long as they continue to be tuberculin positive, the same immunity as that obtained through a natural (but dangerous) infection.

From extensive experience in Scandinavia, U.S.A., Canada and other countries, it has been determined that B.C.G. vaccination can cut down the number of new cases and deaths from T.B. to about one-fifth of what it would be without vaccination. This is not only of enormous value by itself, but by reducing the sources from which the disease can spread, vaccination will indirectly further control the incidence of new cases.

Is B.C.G. vaccine safe for vaccination ?

Not one single case has been published to prove that B C.G. has caused progressive T.B. At the first International Congress on B.C.G. held in Paris in June 1948, workers from 35 countries all over the world unanimously affirmed the complete harmlessness and efficacy of B.C.G. from their experience of over 10 million vaccinations. B.C.G. work started in August 1948 in Madanapalle has confirmed the same observation.

What precautions are taken to ensure the safety of the vaccine ?

B.C.G. conference held in Washington in September 1946 made certain recommendations on the control and use of B.C.G. vaccine. Accordingly, the Government of India have restricted the production of B.C.G. to a single centre at the B.C.G. Laboratory in the King Institue, Guindy, to ensure a uniform standard of potency. The Chief of the Laboratory, an experienced bacteriologist and his assistant were deputed to the State Serum Institute, Copenhagan, were they studied and practised the technique of vaccine production. They also visited the leading B.C.G. laboratories in Europe.

The B.C.G. laboratory is housed in a separate new building belonging to the Government of India. No other bacteriological work is done in this laboratory. The cultures, vaccine, etc., are always handled by the staff who have all been X-rayed to rule out T.B. in them. The X-ray controls are repeated every six monts. Every batch of vaccine produced is put through the most stringent controls in one laboratory and on animals for purity, potency and virulence. Major General Sri Sahib Singh Sokehy, Director of Haffkine Institute, Bombay, who has been requested by World Health Organization to visit the Laboratory at Guindy and report on the facilities to produce a reliable safe vaccine, has reported to the high standard of techinque and competence of the staff and suitability of the building.

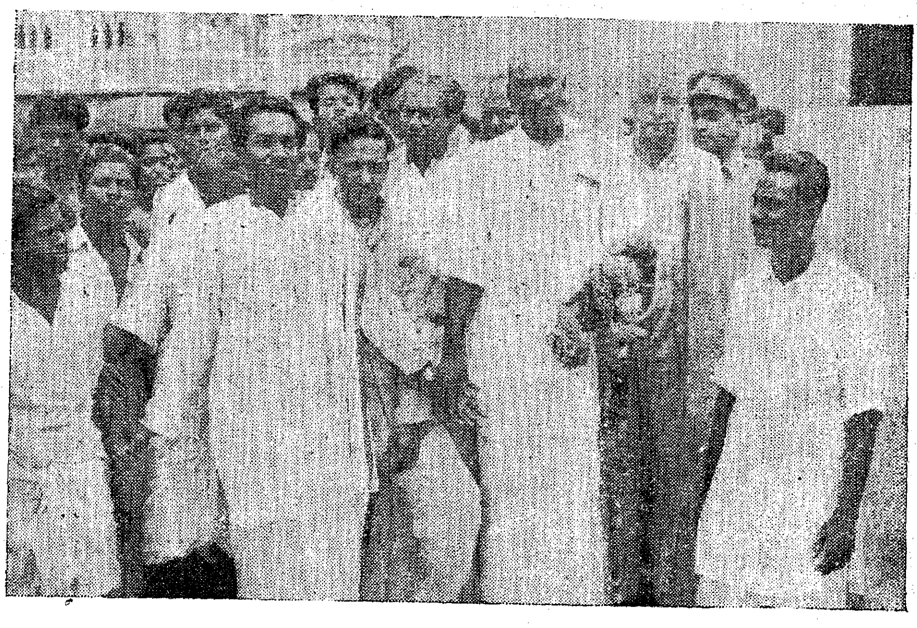
The original strain of the Bovine Tubercle bacilli provided by the Pasteur Institute, Paris and used with such remarkable safety all over the world is the one used in our laboratory also.

What is the procedure followed for vaccination ?

Every one is tuberculin-tested according to the approved technique. The non-reactors are recommended vaccination, which they are at liberty to accept or refuse.

Which age groups will be selected for B.C.G. vaccination ?

Non-reactors in any age group can be vaccinated and will profit by vaccination. For mass vaccination, that age group in which a high percentage will be negative is selected, as they stand in need of protection urgently. In every country the school children and young adults are first tested and vaccinated because they form the bulk of non-reactors.



Sri K. Kamaraj, Chief Minister, opening a park at Karaikudi.

How is the vaccine administered ?

B.C.G. vaccine (1/10 c.c. or 1/20 mg.) is injected into the skin on the left shoulder in the same way as the Tuberculin test with a very fine needle. It is a painless procedure.

What happens after the vaccination ?

When the vaccine is injected a wheel about $\frac{1}{4}''$ in diameter will form a d this will disappear in about 10 minut^s. There are no reactions whatever following the injection—no fever or the like and the children can attend school, play, bathe, etc., as usual. Two to three weeks after vaccination a painless nodule of the size of a pin's head will develop at the vaccinated spot. This may increase slightly in size, and some times may become soft and discharge a drop of matter. The resulting tiny ulcer will heal up spontaneously by 8—10 weeks. At this time, all that is seen is a small hardly visible scar. No dressing is necessary at any time.

Are there any complications after vaccination ?

Comparatively very few. Very rarely (less than 1 : 2,000) a small abscess may develop at the vaccinated site or a gland in the arm pit may become swollen. They need no special treatment and will disappear spontaneously.

How long does the protection last ?

On an average from 4 to 6 years—when 90 per cent will be found to be tuberculin positive. Very often it is much longer. It is advised that vaccinated persons be tuberculin tested 2 to 3 years after vaccination and every year thereafter. Generally, a natural infection will occur on the top of B.C.G. immunity, when B.C.G. immunity will merge into natural immunity. The aim of B.C.G. vaccination is to help the non-reactors to withstand and arrest a natural infection in which the dose and virulence are unknown.

This pamphlet is recommended to the public, to all those who are interested in fighting one of the worst killers prowling silently amidst us, killing very often before one has even a chance to see the stealthy enemy.

During April-September 1954, the Indian Telephone Industries factory produced 26,040 telephones and 14,000 exchange lines.

Rural Electrification

The number of villages electrified during the month of June in the various systems was as follows :—

Pykara System	6
Mettur System	10
Papanasam System	10
Madras System	3
Total ..	29

The names of villages together with the details of taluk and district are given below :—

Name of the village.	*Taluk.*	*District.*
	Madras Electricity System.	
Gerugambakkam	Sriperumbudur	Chingleput.
Periappanamacheri	Do.	....
Tandalam	Trivellore	....
	Pykara System.	
Mangalakarai	Avanashi	Coimbatore.
Kothamoopanpudur	Gobichettipalayam	....
Ayyampalli	Palni	Madurai.
Kullampatti	Dindigul	....
Karadikuttam	Palni	....
Vadipatti	Do.	....
	Mettur System.	
Vangur	Wallajah	North Arcot.
Govindacheri	....	....
Kannaikapuram	....	....
Kalavaipudur	....	....
Agaram	....	....
Mallikapuram	....	....
Edapalayam	Tiruvannamalai	....
Anaikarai	....	....
Kolathupalayam	Erode	Coimbatore.
Tirumalacheri	Wallajah	North Arcot.
	Papanasam.	
Urappanur	Tirumangalam	Madurai.
Nambithalavanpattyam	Nanguneri	Tirunelveli.
Thirukarangudi	Do.	Do.
Puliamkurichi	Do.	Do.
Dulapalanisamudram	....	....
Adikulam	....	....
Rajakulamangalam	....	....
Karupatti	Nilakottai	Madurai.
Balakrishnapuram	....	....
Sundarapandian	Srivilliputhur	Ramanad.

A large number of rural extension schemes were progressing. The following are the particulars of length of new lines constructed and energised during the month in the various system :—

	Length of line in miles added	
	H.T.	*L.T.*
Pykara System	4·00	9·16
Mettur System	11·09	22·32
Papanasam System	11·47	40·24
Madras System	2·76	14·73
Total ..	29·32	86·45

The Bridge Across Noyyal River

By Sri K. K. NAMBIAR, Chief Engineer (Highways)

The Noyyal river crosses the Erode -Karur road at mile 27/1 and through communication was difficult without the river being bridged here. This river which takes its origin in the Western Ghats gets flooded during heavy rains when communication between the two important commercial centres of Karur and Erode used to get interrupted sometimes even for three or four days at a stretch. During such periods of interruption, the traffic on this road had to take a circuitous route via Vellakoil in Erode taluk. Considering this difficulty the State Government sanctioned the construction of a bridge at this crossing. The work was put on hand in April 1953 and is just completed.

Commercial Importance

This Erode-Karur road is classed as a Major District Road and connects the adjoining districts of Tiruchirappalli and Coimbatore. The road for a major portion of its length runs through richly cultivated lands growing mostly sugarcane and rice. Naturally the road is subjected to heavy vehicular traffic conveying these commodities. The bridge at Pugalur on the Cauvery River was thrown open for traffic some time ago and with the completion of this bridge across Noyyal river the commercial crops from a wide area in Namakal and Tiruchengode taluks of Salem district, Karur of Tiruchirappalli district and Erode of Coimbatore district will find an easy inter-district movement. From this one can imagine the importance of this road in the immediate future from the commercial point of view. Also a lot of passenger traffic leading towards Erode, Bhavani, Mettur and Gobichettipalayam from Tiruchirappalli, Karur, Dindigul, Dharapuram, Pollachi, etc., will have to take this route and the volume of this passenger traffic is expected to increase considerably.

Looking back on the communication system in Coimbatore district, I have to say that in the early part of 18th century there were hardly any good roads, but only beaten tracks and consequently carts were unknown, the whole traffic being conducted on pack-bullocks or ponies and occasionaly by basket boats on the rivers. From that time onwards, the district seems to have gradually improved and in the latter part of the 18th century there were some good roads. The principal roads then eixsted were the Madras Trunk Road and those leading to Tiruchirappalli, Madurai and Hassanur pass, aggregating a total length of 266 miles.

Roads in Tiruchirappalli district

The Gazetteer of the Tiruchirappalli district published in 1907 speaking of the roads of the District says that this district is traversed by many important roads such as those running from Tiruchirappalli to Perambalur, to Salem through Musiri and Namakal; to Erode via Karur; to Attur through Turaiyur and to Madurai and Dindigul. All these were in charge of the District Board. The condition of these roads was generally fair and only a few trunk roads were metalled. However, the absence of wells and other means of water supply rendered it imposible to repair them except in the rainy season. The average annual expenditure on these roads was only Rs. 128 per mile. Of the bridges of the district the most important are those which cross the Cauvery and Coleroon on either side of the Srirangam Island. They are known as the Cauvery and Coleroon bridges respectively and carry a great deal of traffic. Apart from these bridges, there are a few number of bridges across the rivers, Koraiyar, Kodamurti, Kulaiyar, Uppar, etc.

The Cauvery bridge above mentioned consisted of 32 spans of about 48 feet each and is 1,876 feet in length. It was completed in 1849 and a tablet erected on the parapets of the bridge states that it was dedicated to the memory of one Dalton, Kilpatrick and four other officers of the English army which fought gallantly to save Tiruchirappalli from the French in the middle of the 18th century. This brick arched bridge was washed away in the floods of 1924 and was re-constructed on the same foundations with steel truss superstructure and opened to traffic by Lord Goschen on 24th January 1929.

This bridge which is situated on the National Highway No. 45, Madras-Tiruchirappalli-Dindigul road, has a clear roadway of 18 feet only and was designed to take up the old Madras 'B' Class loading. The intensity of traffic over the bridge is at present very heavy being about 8,000 tons per day. Also the existing bridge gives constant trouble with cracks developing in old masonry in piers where free

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In the Madras Electricity System a total number of 195 D.C. services with an approximate connected load of 241 K.W. were changed over to A.C. Supply on a voluntary basis.

During the month 16 extensions were sanctioned by the Chief Operation Engineers and Chief Engineer for Electricity at an estimated cost of Rs. 6·29 lakhs.

During the month of May the following services were connected under Papanasam and Madras Electricity Systems :—

	Services Connected		
	Agricultural.	*Industrial.*	*Domestic.*
Papanasam Electricity System ..	68	12	654
Madras Electricity System ..	39	24	402

ends of the trusses rest. In view of the heavy traffic, certain constructional defects in the existing bridge and the resulting inconvenience and trouble to public, it is proposed to construct a new bridge at a cost of about 48·5 lakhs on the down stream side of the existing bridge by passing the Tiruchirappalli Town. The existing bridge will also be repaired and maintained for the use of the pedestrians, cyclists, and light motor traffic, etc.

Upgrading of Roads

All these bridges and roads were constructed long before the advent of the Railways and the first railway line between Erode and Karur was opened only in the year 1868. The emergence of the motor vehicle in the present century revolutionized the outlook for road transport for, the motor and lorry traffic had the advantage of being more tractable than the railways for short hauls. Improved surfacings for auto-vehicles require a great investment of money which in those days they would not afford. Hence the construction of a number of black top and concrete roads and construction of bridges over unbridged crossings are undertaken. The increased allotment which is being given in recent years has made it possible to upgrade a fairly good percentage of the heavily trafficked roads in the district.

Prior to the formation of the Highways Department in 1946 the growth of communications in this State has been spasmodic and poor, due to lack of co-ordination in planning and finance. Rest of the routes were but fair weather types with the right of way demarcated. Thanks to the efforts of our Government, who are taking every possible step to improve our communications with the limited finance available, Madras has now more mileage of roads per square mile than in other States of this country. Of course the post-war plan, known as 'The Nagpur Plan of 1943', envisaged the entire Highway system of India as a single concept, and to bring the different segments of society into contact. Attempts to put the recommendations into practice by way of First Five-Year P.W.R.D. Plan, 1947–52, and followed by First Five-Year All-India Plan, 1951-56, have not been completely successful in all aspects due to paucity of finance.

It is increasingly realized by all including the Planning Commission that sooner the Highways grid and the rural road net work are established the greater and faster will be the pace of economic and social development. A good road system will facilitate cultural contacts, stimulate the growth of trade and commerce, and generally tend to increase the prosperity of the country.

Highways and Reconstruction

If the well knit railway system and the efficient post and telegraph system have contributed much to the common weal the long-awaited and overdue Highways system should complete the process of unification of the entire area and population. Indeed Highways will ensure an all round realistic approach to the raising the standard of living in Rural India in contrast to the Railways, Airways and Waterways which can serve only a limited area.

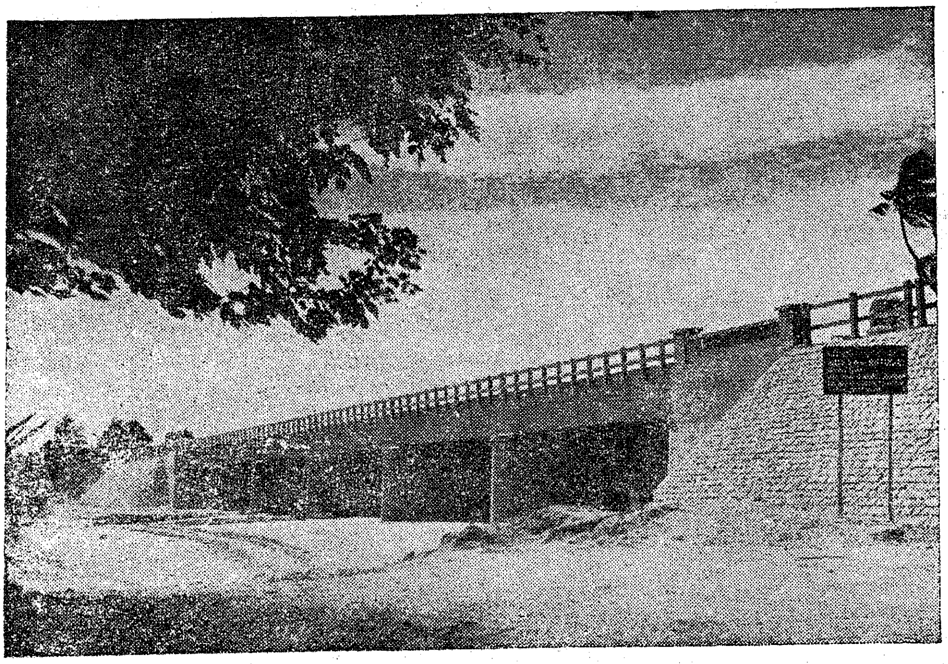
The Highways problem is colossal. The planning must be continuous foreseeing the future pattern and type of traffic. Basic planning surveys and fiscal studies and policies on the inter-related transport and growth of industry are essential. The days may not be far off when we also will be having roads like the *Express* ways of America *Autobohn* of Germany and *Austrogrades* of Italy.

In the Second Five-Year Plan, it is contemplated to provide improved surfaces to all important roads, to bridge a number of unbridged crossings and to form new roads to link the villages with the important town centres.

Details of the Bridge

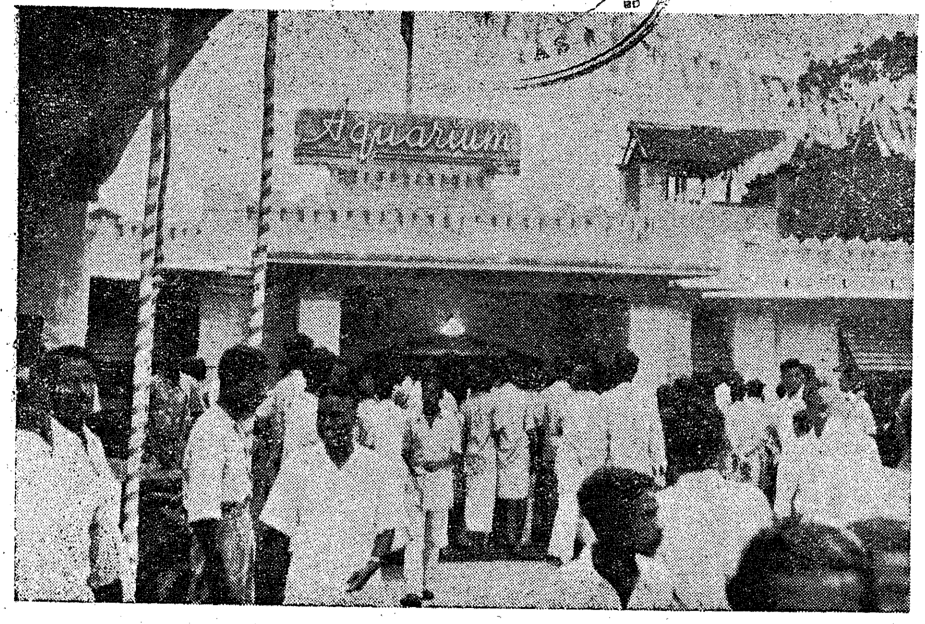
Now let me give a few details of this Noyyal Bridge. It has 6 spans of 45 feet clear each and carries a roadway of 22 feet between kerbs. The bridge rests on rock which is available at depths varying from 15 to 26 feet below the bed of the river. The left half of the bridge is supported on well foundations whereas on the right half the piers, abutment and wings are laid directly on the rock after exposing the same by open excavation as rock is available at shallower depths. The substructure of the bridge is of mass concrete. The superstructure of the bridge consists of Reinforced Concrete Tee beams and slab. The deck slab is 7½ inches thick and is supported by 4 Tee ribs 15 inches by 58½ inches spaced at 6 feet centres. The bridge is designed for the heaviest live loadings prescribed by the Indian Road Congress Standard specifications. About 90 tons of steel and about 555 tons of cement have been used on the work. The cost of the bridge including its approach roads is Rs. 3·20 lakhs.

[From the speech of the Chief Engineer for Highways when the bridge was opened by Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam, Minister for Agriculture, on 23rd July 1955.]



Noyyal bridge at mile 27/1 of the Erode-Karur road opened on 23rd July 1955 by Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam, Minister for Agriculture.

8 SEP 1955



Aquarium Opened in the City

The original Marine Aquarium which was in this place was one of the oldest Aquaria in the East. It came into existence as a result of the efforts of Mr. Edger Thurston who was then the Superintendent of the Madras Museum. It was opened in 1909 as an adjunct to the museum. Its value and usefulness increased so much that it came to be recognized as an unique institution. In 1919 it came under the administrative control of the Fisheries Department which took steps to increase the number of varieties of the exhibits from time to time. The existing building was found unsatisfactory and proposals were made more than once to house the aquarium in another and better building. However when the War broke out in 1939 the Aquarium had to be closed for security reasons. After the close of the War, proposals for the construction of a new and modern Aquarium were again taken up. A site on the sea-shore opposite to the Madras University buildings has recently been selected and approved by Government and plans and estimates for a modern and up-to-date Aquarium have been called for. The construction of this new Aquarium has been included as one of the Schemes of the Fisheries Department in the Second Five-Year Plan.

We are hoping that the new Aquarium that we are contemplating will be an accomplished fact within two or three years; but it was felt that meanwhile the old building here which was hitherto used as a Departmental Library might be put to use to house a small fresh water Museum.

This State has one of the longest coast lines in India of nearly 700 miles besides possessing extensive areas of inland water for development of inland fisheries. During the past few years when this State was faced with an acute food shortage, we were obliged to look upon fisheries as one of the methods to meet the shortage. This was done mostly by the development of inland fisheries by intensive stocking of reservoirs, rivers and tanks with edible fishes. Deep sea fishing was also given a fillip though not to the same extent due to the paucity of efficient fishing vessels and improved tackles. Side by side, I hope that this small Aquarium and the bigger one that will come up in one or two years will be a epitome of rare fishes caught or introduced in our waters. It is bound to continue to be a source of attraction not only from the point of view of educational and biological interest but also as a small store house of the aquatic beauties of Nature.

[*Extracts from the Speech of Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam, Minister for Agriculture, when the fresh water Aquarinm at the Marina was opened by Sri Ajit Prasad Jain, Union Minister for Food and Agriculture, on 18th August 1955.*]

Shri A. P. Jain, Union Minister for Food and Agriculture, opened the Marina Aquarium organised by the Fisheries Department of the Madras Government on 18th August 1955. The picture shows the Union Minister opening the aquarium by pressing a button.

SEP 1955 MADRAS

Tamil Literature: The Ancient Period

By SRI R. P. SETHU PILLAI, Head of the Tamil Department, University of Madras

Early History

The early history of the Tamil language is veiled in the mist of the distant past. According to legend, the language originated from Lord Siva and its first grammar was composed by Saint Agastya who lived in the Pothiya Hills of South India. Poets of eminence have paid their tribute of gratitude to this saintly grammarian who formulated the principles of Tamil grammar for the first time. But nothing authentic is known about this grammar.

The earliest grammar available to us is *Tholkappiam* and its author is said to be a disciple of Agastya. It consists of three parts. The first deals with orthography and phonetics; the second deals with etymology and morphology; and the third deals with the subject-matter of poetry, prosody and rhetoric. The age of *Tholkappiam* has not yet been finally settled. It is generally assigned to the third century B.C. "Whatever antqiuity may be attributed to *Tholkappiam*", says Dr. Caldwell, "it must have been preceded by many centuries of literary culture. It lays down rules for different kinds of poetic composition which must have been deduced from examples furnished by the best authors whose works were then in existence."

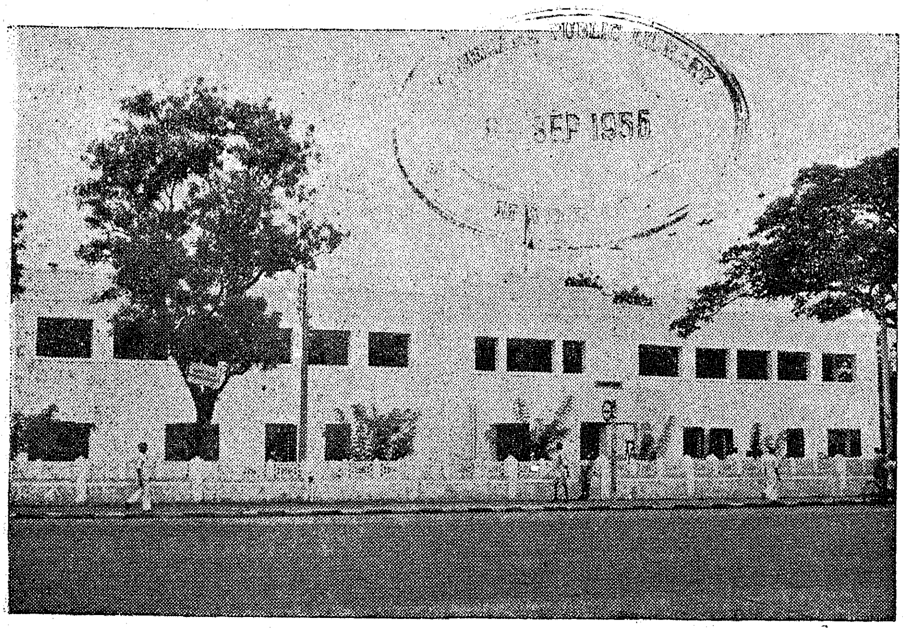
The literature belonging to this period has not survived the ravages of time. Nevertheless, anthologies compiled during this period have come down to us. The *Pattupattu* and *Ettutokai* are store-houses of information on the princes and peoples of the ancient Tamil country. They are cherished as "wells of Tamil undefiled."

Sacred Kural

The great literary work of this period was the *Sacred Kural* of Tiruvalluvar. No poet of the Tamil country commands the respectful admiration of poets and people alike as this great poet. He is praised by a Western savant "as the bard of universal man". His work entitled *Tirukural* is a code of morals expressed in poetical aphorisms. Very little is known of the life of Tiruvalluvar, but he is generally believed to have lived in Mylapore which is now a suburb of the City of Madras. A distinguished European missionary who translated the first two parts of the *Kural* into Latin, says that "the prefix 'Tiru' in the name Tiruvalluvar signifies 'divine', in the sense in which we say 'the Divine Plato'." It is no exaggeration to say that every noteworthy poet who came after Tiruvalluvar has deemed it a privilege to incorporate in his poem the luminous ideas and lucid expressions of the *Sacred Kural*. The Buddhists and Jains, the Saivites and Vaishnavites vie with one another in adoring it as their scripture. This unique feature is perhaps responsible for its being called 'Podumarai' (Common Scripture) and 'Tamil Marai' (Tamil Scripture).

The ancient kings and princes of the Tamil country were patrons of Tamil learning and some of them were scholars and poets of no mean order. The pride of place among them is given to the Pandya kings who established a Tamil academy in their capital city of Madurai and patronised scholars by munificent gifts. The reputation of the academy was so great that authors and poets sought its recognition and approval for their writings. Tradition has it that Tiruvalluvar submitted his Kural for the approval of this academy

Sri K. Kamaraj, Chief Minister, addressing the function held in connection with the opening of the new administration building of the Government Transport.



The new administration building of the Madras Government Transport.

and secured its approbation after answering the searching questions put to him by the learned critics. This period is generally called the Sangam Age of Tamil literature.

Epic Age

The age of the SACRED KURAL was followed by the Epic Age of Tamil literature. Five great epic poems are said to have been composed in the Tamil language but of these, two have almost perished. The remaining three poems have been critically studied and they have contributed greatly to an appreciation of ancient Tamil civilisation and culture. 'Silapathigaram', the *Lay of the Anklet* and 'Manimekalai' are considered to be twin epics, and their authors are said to have been contemporaries. In elegance of style and wealth of information on the arts of poetry, music and dancing, the *Lay of the Anklet* stands out as a unique literary composition. Chastity which has always been cherished in the Tamil country as an inestimable virtue of womanhood, is deified in this great poem. Kannaki, the heroine has been the object of adoration ever since this epic poem came into existence. The other epic poem 'Manimekalai' presents the ideal of renunciation which captured the imagination of the Tamils after the advent of Buddhism. The heroine called Manimekalai devotes herself to a religious life. She is courted by a handsome prince, but remains firm and faithful to her vow and ultimately renounces the world and embraces Buddhism. Incidentally the author describes the six schools of philosophy which were popular in his time and shows himself to be a master of logical subtleties.

A period of confusion

This Augustan Age of Tamil literature was followed by a period of confusion which is called by historians the Kalabra Interregenum. It is possible that during this dark period, Buddhism and Jainism gained popularity in the Tamil country. The Pallava kings of Kanchi then came on the scene and for three centuries there was a vigorous struggle for supremacy between Buddhism and Jainism on the one hand and Saivism and Vaishnavism on the other. Tirugnanasambandar was the chief exponent of Saiva faith. He was challenged at Mathurai by the Jaina monks who were basking in the sunshine of royal patronage. The challenge was taken up and in the memorable contest that followed, the Saiva saint came out triumphant. The great opponents of Buddhism were the Vaishnava saint Tirumangai Alwar and the Saiva saint Manickavasagar. The defeat sustained by the Jains and Buddhists evoked great enthusiasm in the country. The atmosphere was surcharged with religious spirit. Devotional hymns were composed by the Saiva and Vaishnava saints, which were chanted by the people throughout the country. "The emotional theism of these masters of popular song", says a historian, "running in the parallel channels of Vaishnavism and Saivism is in many ways the most characteristic product of Tamil religious experience."

The sacred hymns of the Saiva saints known as *Tevaram* and *Tiruvasagam* and the bulk of four thousand sacred hymns of the Vaishnava saints laid the foundations of the Bhakti cult. In a memorable poem entitled 'Tiruthondathogai', Saint Sundarar, the last of the Saiva hymnists, paid his homage to the saintly persons who attained salvation through Bhakti. This poem formed the basis of the illustrious work known as *Tiruthondarpuranam* or *Periyapuranam*. The author of this work was the Prime Minister of the Chola Empire during the reign of Kulothunga, who honoured him by the title *Thondarsirparavuvar*—the singer of the glories of the saints.

Although Buddhism and Jainism ceased to be a vital religious force in the Tamil land after the great religious struggle, their contribution to Tamil literature and culture, was substantial. One of the five great epic poems, *Chintamani* was composed by a Jaina monk in the 10th century A.D. It was the first epic in Tamil literature to employ the metre called *viruttam* which has gained increasing popularity as the medium of poetic expression ever since. *Yapparungalam,* a treatise on prosody, was written by a Jaina ascetic. It offers an exhaustive treatment of the variety of metres in Tamil. The author of the medieval Tamil grammar known as Verasoliyam was a Buddhist. Metrical lexicons like *Nikantu, Cudamani* and grammatical treatises like *Nannul*, which are considered to be standard works by the Tamils even to this day, are the contributions of Jaina scholars.

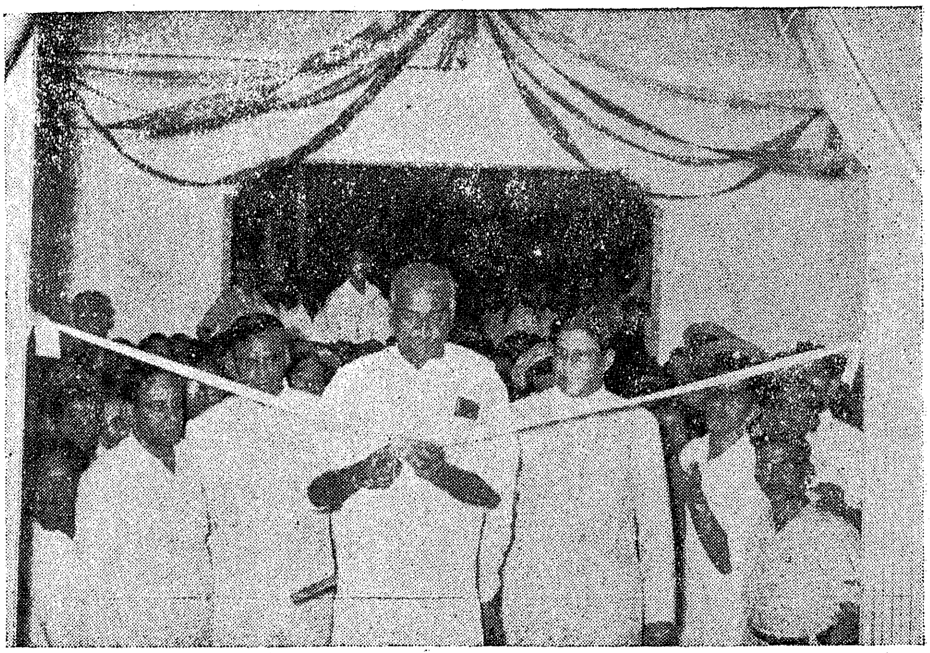
Kamban, of Immortal Fame

The age of the Imperial Cholas constitutes the most creative epoch in the literary history of South India. Three great poets flourished during this period and they are known to Tamil literature as *Kavichakravarthis*. One of them was Kamban, of immortal fame. His 'Ramayanam' is the greatest epic in Tamil literature. "His work" says a historian, "is no mere translation nor even an adaptation of the Sanskrit 'Ramayana.' In the treatment of the incidents in the story and in the portrayal of the chief characters in it, Kamban made a very wide departure and handled the subject matter with a mastery and originality and a depth of poetic experience seldom equalled in Tamil literature. A war poem known as *Kallingattuparani* earned the title of Poet Laureate for the poet Jayangondan. The conquest

of Kalinga by a Chola king is celebrated in the poem. The pomp and circumstance of war are depicted in a masterly way, which has made the *Kalingattu-parani* a model and masterpiece in that kind of literary composition. The third Poet Laureate was Ottakuttan who was patronised by three successive Chola emperors.

The age of the Imperial Cholas witnessed the vigorous growth of the Saiva Siddhanta philosophy. Dr. Pope has characterised it as "the typical product of the Dravidian intellect". Saint Meikandar formulated the principles of this philosophy in forty lines of poetry, which have been expounded and elucidated by his disciples. "This system", says Gowdi, "possesses the merits of great antiquity." As a system of religious thought, as an expression of faith and life, the Saiva Siddhanta is by far the best that South India has produced. A clear and authoritative exposition of the doctrines of Saiva Siddhanta is the *Sivagnanasidyar*. It is a classical treatise on Tamil Saivism and has been the subject of several commentaries.

In the field of literature some of the great commentaries on the classics came into existence during the period of Imperial Cholas. The *Sacred Kural* had nearly ten commentaries of which the commentary of Parimelazhagar is considered to be the best and last. Students of Tamil literature are greatly indebted to Naccinarkkiniyar who has written erudite commentaries on the *Pathuppattu, Kalithogai* and *Chintamani.* The commentary of Adiyarkkunallar on *Silappatikaram* is a valuable mine of information on the ancient arts of music and dancing that were popular in the Tamil country in the early centuries of the Christian era. Several treatises on music and dance are cited in his commentary. Of these we have no other information besides the references in this work. The commentaries on *Tolkappiam* were also written during this period.



The Chief Minister, Sri K. Kamaraj, opening the new administration building of the Madras Government Transport.

The language of these commentaries gives us an idea of the ancient and medieval prose of Tamil literature. There are a few passages of prose in *Silappatikaram* and in the commentary of Nakkirar on a treatise on love. The prose style of these works is almost as terse and elegant as classical poetry. In fact, it may be called rhythmic prose or poetic prose.

Manipravalam

In the medieval period of Tamil literature, a new style of writing known as Manipravalam was employed by some of the great writers of the Jaina and Vaishnava religions. A sacred book of the Jainas known as *Sripuranam* was written in that style and the valuable commentaries on the *Tiruvaimozhi* of Nammalwar, the greatest of the Vaishnava saints were written in the Manipravala style. The Manipravalam was the quaint style in which phrases of Sanskrit and Tamil are harmonised in rhythm. In spite of the eminence of the scholars who sponsored the style it died a natural death in course of time. In order to preserve the philosophic thoughts contained in the commentaries attempts are new being made to render them into Tamil.

(*Continued on page* 32)

Sri B. Parameswaran, Minister for Transport, ceremonially launched the new fleet of 10 buses added to the City Transport.

CONNEMARA PUBLIC LIBRARY
8 - SEP 1955

Rural Broadcasts for September 1955

Thursday, 1st September 1955—
Farm Forum : Discussion.
Musical bouquet.
Market rates and water-level readings.
Topical discussion : Weather report.

Friday, 2nd September 1955—
Parisal Thurai : Musical feature.
Market rates and water-level readings.
Topical discussion : Weather report.

Saturday, 3rd September 1955—
National Extension Scheme in Tanjore district—Talk in Tamil, arranged by the Department of Agriculture, Government of Madras.
En Arumai Tamizh Nattil : Song.
The Adult Literacy Class : Tirukural: Adakkamudaimai (Kural Nos. 12 and 122).
Weekly Review of Market rates; Water-level readings.
Topical discussion : Weather report.

Sunday, 4th September 1955—
Oil Seeds : Discussion.
Methinikku Menmaitarum : Song.
The Pial School of Political Science.
Market rates and water-level readings.
Topical discussion ; Weather report

Monday, 5th September 1955—
Dairying : Discussion.
Folk songs lesson.
The Village Women's Forum.
Market rates and water-level readings.
Topical discussion : Weather report.

Tuesday, 6th September 1955—
Grama Chiruvargal.
Market rates and water-level readings.
Topical discussion : Weather report.

Wednesday, 7th September 1955—
Typhoid Fever and Treatment : Discussion.
Folk songs.
Market rates and water-level readings.
Topical discussion : Weather report.

Thursday, 8th September 1955—
Farm Forum : Discussion.
Vasanai Kalanjiyam : Pannir : Musical feature.
Market rates and water-level readings.
Topical discussion : Weather report.

Friday, 9th September 1955—
Uriyadi Utsavam : Musical feature.
Market rates and water-level readings.
Topical discussion : Weather report.

Saturday, 10th September 1955—
Cottage Industry : Oil Pressing.
Ellamahi Kalandu : Song.
The Adult Literacy Class : Tirukural : Adakkamudaiumai (Kural Nos. 123 and 124).
Weekly review of market rates; Water-level readings.
Topical discussion : Weather report.

Sunday, 11th September 1955—
Bharati Kanda Graman : Musicial feature.
Market rates and water-level readings.
Topical discussion : Weather report.

Monday, 12th September 1955—
Hemp Sore : Discussion.
Satya Jothiyai : Song.
Irulil oli : Feature.
Market rates and water-level readings.
Topical discussion : Weather report.

Tuesday, 13th September 1955—
Farm Forum : Discussion.
Grama Patasalaiyil : Asu Kavirayar.
Market rates and water-level readings.
Topical discussion : Weather report.

Wednesday, 14th September 1955—
How to combat Ant trouble : Discussion.
Suddha unavilum : Song.
Listeners' letters.
Market rates and water-level readings.
Topical discussion : Weather report.

Thursday, 15th September 1955—
Farm Forum : Discussion.
Musical bouquet.
Market rates and water-level readings.
Topical discussion : Weather report.

Friday, 16th September 1955—
Karayadi Vayal : Play.
Market rates and water-level readings.
Topical discussion : Weather report.

Saturday, 17th September 1955—
Cottage Industries : Talk in Tamil arranged by the Department of Industries and Commerce, Government of Madras.
Un arul allal : Song.
The Adult Literacy Class : Tirukural : Adakkamudaimai (Kural Nos. 125 and 126).
Weekly review of market rates; water-level readings.
Topical discussion : Weather report.

Sunday, 18th September 1955—
Stage-*cum*-Exhibition : Nam Sadanai : Feature on the Five-Year Plan.
Market rates and water-level readings.
Weather report.

Monday, 19th September 1955—
Stage-*cum*-Exhibition : Engal Oor : Play by Ramesh Mehta.
Market rates and water-level readings.
Topical discussion : Weather report.

Tuesday, 20th September 1955—
Stage-*cum*-Exhibition :
Grama Panchayat Oor Koottam.
Feature on the importance of people's co-operation in the Five-Year Plan.
Market rates and water-level readings.
Topical discussion : Weather report.

Wednesday, 21st September 1955—
Importance of Vitamins : Discussion.
Tamizhnadu : Song.
Social Education under Five-Year Plan : Talk.
Market rates and water-level readings.
Topical discussion : weather report.

Thursday, 22nd September 1955—
Farm Forum : Discussion.
Have You Heard This Song ?
Market rates and water-level readings.
Topical discussion : Weather report.

Friday, 23rd September 1955—
Kathakalakshepam : Rukmani Kalyanam.
Market rates and water-level readings.
Topical discussion : Weather report.

Saturday, 24th September 1955—
Dancing in Kashmir : Discussion.
Ennenna Vandalum : Song.
The Adult Literacy Class : Tirukural: Adakkamudaimai (Kural Nos. 127 and 128).
Weekly review of market rates and water-level readings.
Topical discussion : Weather report.

Sunday, 25th September 1955—
Reclamation of Alkaline Soil : Discussion.
Tamizhar Idhayam : Song.
Kona Ezhuttu Kunchithapadam : Serial sketch.
Market rates and water-level readings.
Topical discussion : Weather report.

Monday, 26th September 1955—
Cotton Seed as Cattle Feed : Discussion.
Sathya Jothiyai : Song.
Irulil Oli : Feature.
Market rates and water-level readings.
Topical discussion : Weather report.

Tuesday, 27th September 1955—
Farm Forum : Discussion.
Folk songs.
Market rates and water-level readings.
Topical discussion : Weather report.

Wednesday, 28th September 1955—
Spitting a Bad Habit : Discussion.
Sathya Vritam : Song.
Listeners' Letters.
Market rates and water-level readings.
Topical discussion : Weather report.

Thursday, 29th September 1955—
Farm Forum : Discussion.
Musical bouquet.
Market rates and water-level readings.
Topical discussion : Weather report.

Friday, 30th September 1955—
Makkal Tiruppani : Play.
Oyil Kummi.
Market rates and water-level readings.
Topical discussion : Weather report.

Trained to Serve

Five hundred Block Level Extension Officers will be trained every year under the Community Project Administration's intensive programme to provide adequate training to the personnel engaged in the development of small-scale, cottage and village industries in the Project areas.

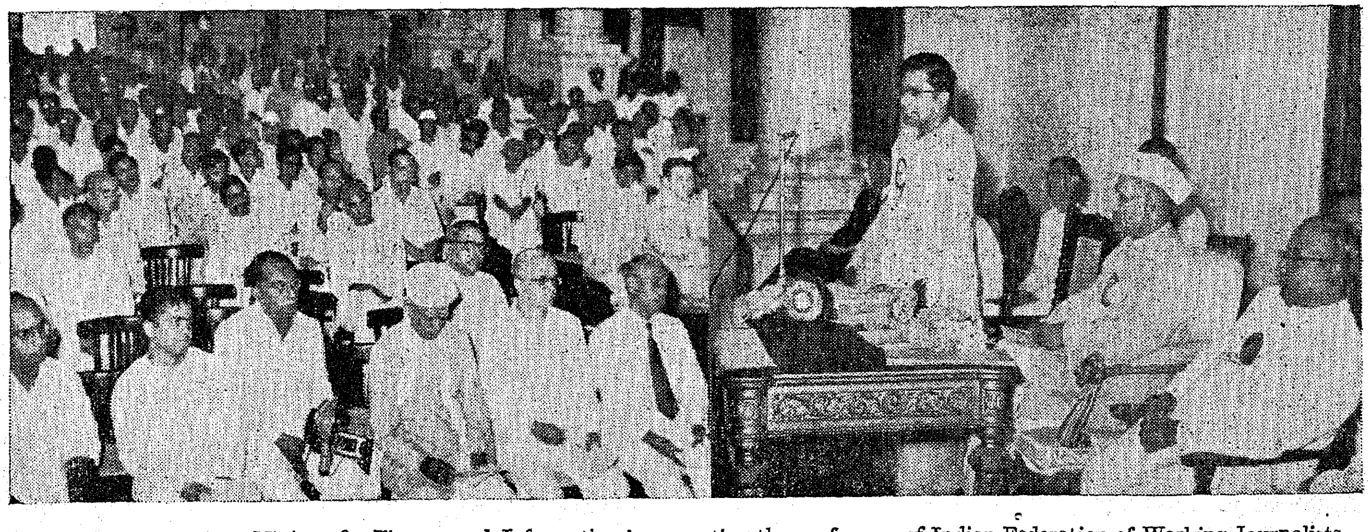
The production of sugarcane for 1954-55 shows an increase of 10,775,000 tons or 24·6 per cent over the previous year's production of 43,873,000 tons.

(*Continued from page* 30)

After the fall of the Chola Empire religious institutions known as Mutatheenams became centres of learning and culture. There are several such in the Tamil country where literature and religion are fostered. The Tiruvavaduthurai and Dharmapuram Mutts are great centres of learning in the heart of the Tamil country. The ascetics belonging to these institutions have made valuable contribution to the growth of the Tamil language and literature. One of these ascetics, Saint Kumaraguruparar, lived in the sacred city of Benares for several years, expounding the philosophy of Saiva Siddhanta and the elegance of Tamil literature. It is said that he was able to obtain the grant of a plot of land from the great Moghul Emperor of his day by his persuasive eloquence. The Mutt that he erected on the site still exists on the banks of the Ganges. There is a tradition that he gave a series of discourses on the *Kambaramayanam* in Hindustani, for the benefit of the Rama Bhaktas of the North. Tulsidas who is said to have attended the lectures was greatly inspired by the Bhakti or devotion portrayed in the *Kambaramayanam*. There is a Mutt in South India dedicated to the memory of this great saint, who in the 17th century sought to interpret the literature and culture of South India to the peoples of North India.

(*By courtesy, All India Radio.*)

Up to May 31, 1955 the Rehabilitation Finance Administration disbursed Rs. 956·59 lakhs as loans to displaced persons.



Sri C. Subramaniam, Minister for Finance and Information inaugurating the conference of Indian Federation of Working Journalists held recently in the City.

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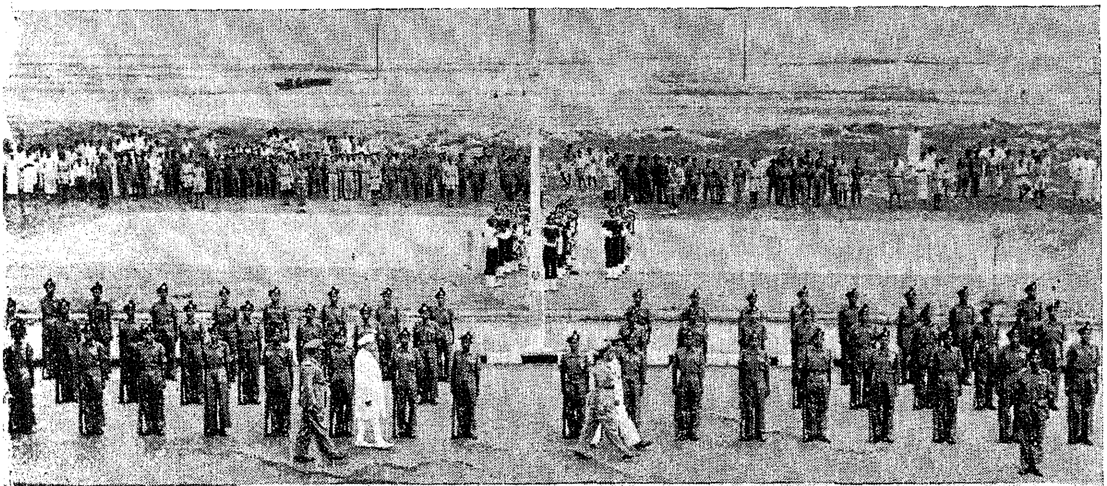

INDEPENDENCE DAY

On August 15th, we renewed our pledge to serve the people.

Wreaths were also placed on the monument to the war dead with the silent prayer that conditions may not again arise when the youth will be wrenched from homes to die in far-off lands.

Registered No. M-4767.

A Division of the Department of Industries and Commerce, Madras

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